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MONDAY, JULY 3, 1989 / ZUL HAJ 1, 1409 AH

20 PAGES 150 PLS

Expats might own property

Oil another 200 years

By Khaled Ahmad

THE new amendments of the Commercial Law, approved by the cabinet yesterday will allow non-Kuwaitis to indirectly own property and assets in Kuwait, a Kuwaiti economic expert said.

Head of Al Shall Consultants Bureau, Jassem Al Saadoun said that the new amendments are designed to allow non-Kuwaitis to invest their money in investment funds.

He added, the action also aims at increasing the amount of liquidity that can be invested in the local market. The new measures will result in increasing the demand for assets and will raise their value, he said.



No hope

A pensive looking young Vietnamese refugee peers out over the jetty at Tai A Chau in Hong Kong's Soko Islands on Saturday. See story on Page 2. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rebels attack Lanka festival

COLOMBO, July 2. (Agencies): A bomb exploded early today at a crowded festival attended by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, senior members of his cabinet and other lawmakers, police said.

Premadasa and the lawmakers watched the ceremonies from a secret, well-guarded location and were not injured in the attack, police said, but at least one person was killed and 30 others wounded, many critically.

No one claimed responsibility for the blast, which occurred shortly after midnight in Mahiyangana, 130 kilometres (70 miles) northeast of Colombo.

Police refused to say whether the attack was directed at Premadasa. But they blamed members of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) or People's Liberation Front, a left-wing Sinhalese group that has been trying for nearly two years to overthrow the government.

Meanwhile, in the Sinhalese-dominated south, security forces today arrested 3,237 Sinhalese youths suspected of belonging to the front, according to a police official in Colombo.

It was the largest single crackdown against the extremists in nearly two years, said the official.

According to police in Mahiyangana, several armed youths entered the grounds where 200,000 to 300,000 people had gathered for the 11th annual village reawakening festival and detonated the bomb near the main stage.

The exhibition is aimed at encouraging people to build better houses for themselves and to repair neglected villages. Premadasa, who took office in January, regards it as a top priority in alleviating rural poverty.

The attack, the first ever against such a festival, came in spite of heightened security measures, which included posting a large number of military commands around the grounds.

The festival is scheduled to close tomorrow.

Tamil separatist guerrillas said today Indian forces backed by helicopters had launched a massive offensive against them in Sri Lanka's northern jungles.

But Saadoun expressed the belief that the effect of such amendments will be limited and temporary as the estimated amount of cash available with non-Kuwaitis is not large enough.

He expected its effect to be only psychological for a limited period and may result in a slight increase in the value of some local assets. He added that the problem is the lack of investment opportunities in the local market and the small returns.

He added that there is plenty of cash available with the Kuwaiti investors themselves, but they prefer to invest their funds outside Kuwait. He stressed that the essence of the problem is the limited availability of investment channels in the local market and the weakness in the administration of local companies.

Saadoun said that the new amendments have been prepared for issuing the necessary laws to establish the investment funds. The laws on these funds are already with the Council of Ministers. Saadoun expected that all these laws may be issued together to represent a government plan concerning the local market.

Meanwhile, a senior financial source said that the new amendments aim in the first place to solve problems that took place recently in the local market. He said that exchange companies and banks dealing with foreign currency and shares and gold according to the "options" system resulted in some losses and cases were filed in the courts, involving non-Kuwaiti investors.

He added that as the law does not allow non-Kuwaitis to invest in such deals, the new amendments are intended to solve this abnormal position. The source added that the new amendments are also considered an important way for the introduction in the near future of the financial and real estate investment funds.

The new amendments to the commercial law will allow non-Kuwaitis to deposit their money with Kuwaiti banks and investment companies, demanding it be invested in a particular project or in the stock market, meaning thereby, allowing non-Kuwaitis to indirectly own property in Kuwait. The new amendments will become effective after being issued in an Amiri decree.

Reserves

Kuwait, with crude oil reserves of 94.5 billion barrels, should be able to produce oil, at current daily levels, another 200 years, according to Kuwait University assistant professor of the Faculty of Engineering and Petroleum, Dr. Abbas Ma'rifi.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, Ma'rifi said the Kuwaiti reserves, inclusive of the divided zone shared with Saudi Arabia, amount to 10.6 per cent of global reserves and 25.3 per cent of the Middle East reserves.

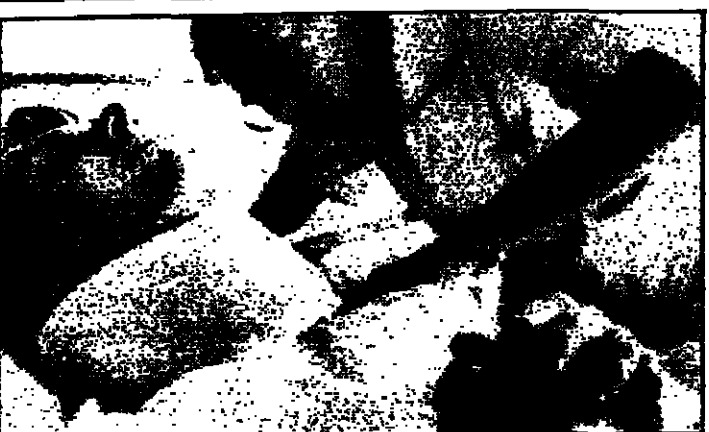
(Continued on Page 7 col. 1)

Bus crash toll reaches 56

DURBAN, South Africa, July 2. (AP): The death toll increased to 56 today as rescue workers found more bodies from a bus that skidded off a rain-slicked highway and plunged 300 metres (900 feet) down an embankment.

More than 20 passengers survived the crash and were hospitalised after being pulled from the wreck and carried back to the road in four-wheel-drive vehicles, police and news reports said.

The bus was carrying workers home from the Natal province town of Harding to the tribal homeland of Transkei on South Africa's southeast coast when it plunged off the road yesterday.



Lucky to be alive

Twenty-two-year-old Ralf Zauske is happy to be alive after two risky operations. Dr. Michael Robert Gaab and his assistant Rolf-Heiner Staffensky from the University of Internal Medicine (Med. Hochschule) in Hannover were able to fix Zauske's head that was torn from the spinal column at a motorbike accident in May. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mahdi still on the run

Kuwait supports: Bashir appeals to US

KHARTOUM, July 2. (Agencies): Sudan's new ruling military council said today that ousted Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi and other senior officials escaped during the early hours of last week's coup and are still on the run.

Brig. Gen. Osman Ahmed Hassan, a member of the 15-member junta set up on Friday to rule Africa's largest country,

appealed in a press statement for citizens to notify authorities of any information of the whereabouts of the missing officials.

The statement listed 20 senior officials who were rounded up as troops moved into the capital at dawn on Friday, surrounding key government offices and military positions. Prominently missing from the list were Sadiq

and his cousin, Interior Minister Mubarak Al Fadil Al Mahdi.

Hassan said a search was on for the missing officials.

Among those who were listed as being under detention were the leaders of Sudan's second and third largest parties, Democratic Unionist Party chief Mohammed Osman Al Mirghani and Sadiq's brother-in-law Hassan Al Turabi, head of the militant

National Islamic Front.

Also in detention were Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Al Hussein and three members of the five-man supreme council, which served as a collective presidency. The other two were out of the country when the coup began.

Kuwait gave its support today

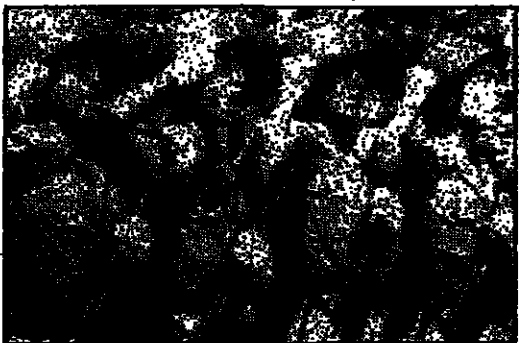
(Continued on Page 5, Col. 3)



Bashir addresses a press conference in Khartoum.



Hong Kong citizens shout 'shame' during demonstrations in front of Government House after the arrival of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. (Reuters wirephoto)



People's Liberation Army soldiers take oath (left) to the Communist Party in Beijing's Tiananmen Square while a leading Chinese dissident Lin Binyan (right) speaks in support of the Chinese pro-democracy student movement during a rally in San Francisco. (Reuters wirephotos)



People's Liberation Army soldiers take oath (left) to the Communist Party in Beijing's Tiananmen Square while a leading Chinese dissident Lin Binyan (right) speaks in support of the Chinese pro-democracy student movement during a rally in San Francisco. (Reuters wirephotos)

China bid to boost image

Party punishing corrupt members

BEIJING, July 2. (Agencies): China's ruling Communist Party began today to clean up its image by punishing allegedly corrupt members, while party theorists attacked what they called decadence in the arts.

The television news announced that three party members from a Beijing suburb were sentenced to prison terms of one to 10 years for accepting bribes in their capacity as factory managers, while a Shanghai legislator was sentenced to eight years imprisonment for taking bribes.

It did not say if they were expelled from the party.

Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin yesterday told revolution

veterans that a thorough shake-up was needed at every level of the party to resolve serious problems.

One of the most serious is widespread corruption that has destroyed public confidence in the leadership. Fighting corruption was one of the main slogans of recently crushed student demonstrations for a freer society, and it won them widespread support.

China's communist leadership today offered leniency to student protesters and admitted serious corruption and indiscipline within the party and inequality of income.

The People's Daily quoted

Premier Li Peng as saying that, while the authorities would punish harshly those it blames for leading weeks of turmoil, they would take a different line toward the ordinary students who took part.

"Although we do not praise their methods — demonstrations, sit-ins and hunger strikes — we will take a lenient attitude toward them, provided they did not break the criminal law," Li told Daniel Wong, a Chinese-American and former Mayor of Caracas in California.

Li's remarks were part of the leadership's attempt to regain

(Continued on Page 2 col. 6)

Indian doctors to end 47-day-old strike

NEW DELHI, July 2. (AP): More than 5,000 doctors at state-run hospitals ended a 47-day-old strike today that had paralysed medical care to the city's poor, negotiators said.

The doctors will return to work tomorrow, said negotiators for the government and the Junior Doctors Federation.

The agreement ending the strike that began May 16 was signed following a round of talks that stretched

through the night, they said.

The doctors had demanded pay raises, higher allowances for not being allowed to maintain private practices and firm schedules for promotion.

According to the agreement, which is retroactive to Jan 1, 1986, the doctors will receive raises of 366 rupees (\$25) a month, less than half of the amount they had sought.

Battles rage in Lebanon

Peace efforts on

BEIRUT, July 2. (Agencies): Syrian and Christian gunners fought ferocious artillery battles across Beirut today as the Soviet Union and the Arab League strove to end the bloodletting.

Amid the shelling, rival Shiite Muslim militias clashed in street battles in West Beirut in their first major confrontation in weeks.

Police said that the overall casualty toll in the day-long hostilities was 10 killed and 29 wounded.

By police count, 396 people have been killed and 1,532 wounded since fighting broke out March 8 between Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun's forces and an alliance of Syrian troops and Druze militiamen.

The fatalities included three Christian soldiers wounded in fighting around the Christian-held mountain stronghold of Souk Al Gharb last week who died in hospital at the weekend, police said.

The Syrians blasted the residential districts of Ashrafieh and Furr Al Shubak in Christian East Beirut with sustained artillery barrages throughout the night.

Then they shelled the shoreline of the besieged Christian enclave to prevent food, fuel and arms supplies reaching Christian forces.

The two sides also fought with tanks around Souk Al Gharb, 10 miles (16 kilometres) southeast of Beirut.

The strategic garrison controls all the mountain roads leading into the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave, besieged by the Syrians and their allies since mid-March.

Eight people, including a priest, were killed and 20 wounded in Beirut's Christian sector, a police spokesman said.

Police said Aoun's gunners unleashed intermittent barrages of 155mm shellfire against Syrian batteries along seaside boulevards in West Beirut's Ain Mreisseh and Raouche districts. No hits were reported.

Police reported two people were killed and nine wounded in the gunbattles that raged all night and this morning between the Syrian-backed Shiite Amal militia and the rival pro-Iranian Hezbollah.

Syrian troops in charge of security in West Beirut cordoned

off the low-income districts of Bourj Abu Haider, Khandak Al Ghamik and Ouzai before declaring a ceasefire at midday, after which the fighting died down into sporadic gunfire.

Syria's bombardment of the Christian coastline persisted despite Iraq's announcement yesterday it was ready to stop arms shipments to Aoun's forces if Syria stops arming its Muslim allies.

The Iraqi move came while Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh was in Baghdad to bolster Arab League efforts to halt the fighting in Lebanon and end the country's 14-year-old civil war.

As the Syrians continued to shell the Christians, Bessmertnykh flew to Damascus today for talks with Syrian leaders.

The Moroccan, Algerian and Saudi Arabian foreign ministers also flew to the Syrian capital today to discuss Arab League efforts to end the fighting.

Iraq has been supplying heavy weapons to Aoun's army and its Christian militia allies.

Diplomats said the three foreign ministers had talks with their Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Shara.

They were expected to meet President Hafez Al Assad before leaving for Baghdad for similar talks with Iraqi leaders.

Syrian newspapers today poured scorn on Iraq, describing its statement on arms supply as a "manoeuvre to delude Arabs."

Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaich told reporters that the committee would try to enforce a fragile ceasefire and pave the way for a political solution.

Leader of the right-wing Phalange Party and the Lebanese Front Dr. George Saada was today quoted as saying that the front is against stripping the president of Lebanon of his authority and believes that abolishing "political sectarianism" in Lebanon is not possible in the present circumstances.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily Saada said the reforms needed in Lebanon are: formation of a constitutional court to supervise laws, another court which should have authority to try the president and the prime minister and setting up of an economic and social council in Lebanon.

ARAB TIMES

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INTERNATIONAL

8 killed near US air base

MANILA, Philippines, July 2, (AP): Government troops clashed with suspected communist guerrillas in a village near the US-run Clark Air Base and killed eight rebels, the military reported today.

A constabulary sergeant was also killed and four soldiers were wounded in the firefight yesterday near Angeles City, 50 miles (80 kilometres) northwest of Manila, according to a Philippine Constabulary report.

Troops recovered six M-16 assault rifles and rebel documents from the slain New People's Army guerrillas, the report said.

The rebels were surrounded at a house in Duquit village, about 1.6 kilometres (one mile) from the air base. The house had been under surveillance for some time, said a Constabulary soldier who requested anonymity.

He said the rebels fired first and troops retaliated after ordering civilians out of the house. He quoted officials as saying that the rebels could have been preparing for operations in the city to coincide with US independence day celebrations on Tuesday also commemorated here as Filipino Independence Day.

The NPA has waged a Marxist insurgency for the last 20 years seeking the removal of US military facilities in the Philippines as one of its goals.

In October 1987, rebels killed three Americans and a Filipino during a series of ambushes outside the base.



South Korean student Im Su-Kyong (centre) waves to the crowd as she marches during the opening ceremony of the World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang. (Reuters wirephoto)

20,000 attend ceremony

Massive youth festival opens

BEIJING, July 2, (Agencies): A youth festival which has attracted more foreigners to North Korea than any other event since the state was founded in 1948 has opened in Pyongyang, the New China News Agency said today.

More than 20,000 students and other young people from 170 countries, as well as delegates from international bodies, attended the opening ceremony presided over by President Kim Il Sung in the May Day stadium last evening, it added.

Diplomats said the festival was North Korea's response to its failure to share in hosting the 1988 Olympics, staged by its arch-rival South Korea.

Among those present at the opening ceremony was a woman student from South Korea, representing that country's main radical student body, who went to Pyongyang in defiance of her government, it said.

The People's Daily today carried a picture of the

student, Im Su-Kyong, 22, surrounded by microphones after her arrival at Pyongyang airport on Friday.

Thierry Angles of France, a member of the permanent commission of the festival, said there was "serious discussion" over whether to include discussion of China's suppression of pro-democracy students before the idea was rejected.

But "we will allow those with different opinions to express them," he said.

The festival's theme of "anti-imperialist solidarity," however, ran into some challenges during the three-hour opening ceremony.

Several Danish delegates were hustled away by security when they unfurled a banner reading "human rights in North Korea too" during a speech by Kim Il Sung, North Korea's absolute ruler for more than 40 years.

Critically-ill Marcos clinging to life

HONOLULU, July 2, (AP): Former Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos remained in critical condition and on life-sustaining equipment yesterday with the prognosis for his recovery poor, according to officials at St. Francis Medical Centre.

Marcos, who remained semicomatose, is afflicted with multiple organ failure and has a massive infection and accompanying fever, according to Eugene Tiwanak, the hospital's assistant administrator.

With the removal of his transplanted kidney Thursday, Marcos must now undergo

daily dialysis to eliminate wastes from his body normally removed by the kidneys. Tiwanak said.

Marcos' breathing is aided by a respirator. The latest crisis in his 5-1/2-month hospitalisation was the failure of Marcos' liver on Wednesday, following heart, kidney and respiratory failure in May.

"He's a little better," Marcos' wife, Imelda, said on Friday. "Just so-so. Still very critical."

Mrs. Marcos' 60th birthday is today and she has said the only gift she wants is her husband's survival.

Mrs. Marcos was told by three doctors that her husband was slightly better following surgery Thursday to remove his kidney, which was transplanted in 1984 but was being rejected, said Marcos family spokesman Roger Peyuan.

The Marcoses have lived here since February 1986, following a popular revolt in the Philippines which swept into power Corazon Aquino, the widow of assassinated Marcos opponent, Benigno Aquino.

She has refused to let Marcos return to the Philippines, dead or alive.

Uno faces the music

TOKYO, July 2, (UPI): Embattled Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, "praying" for party victory, today faced the verdict of millions of voters in the first major election since he assumed office a month ago in a Tokyo poll which some observers predicted could lead to his speedy resignation.

Exit polls quoted by major Japanese television stations pointed to heavy losses for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in the Tokyo metropolitan assembly election held today.

Election officials said turnout was 58.7 per cent of Tokyo's nine million eligible voters — the second highest in history following the figure of 53.5 per cent in 1985 and the record of 60.74 per cent in 1981.

Official vote counting will begin tomorrow at 8 am with final results expected later in the day.

Uno, who succeeded Noboru Takeshita on June 2, has faced calls for his resignation both from opposition groups and elders of his own party, following allegations that he paid several women for long-term sexual relationships.

Uno's Liberal Democrats, who have ruled Japan since 1955, also are under continuing public attack for an influence-buying scandal that forced Takeshita's resignation and a national sales tax hitting hardest at the pocket books of Japan's working classes.

Some analysts said big losses in the Tokyo election could increase pressure on Uno to step down before a national election on July 23 for half the seats of Parliament's upper house, or even before his scheduled trip to Paris July 14-16 to attend the summit of seven major Western industrial democracies.

"This election is in the capital," Uno told reporters today "so we must consider it as important as a general election. The 71 candidates from the LDP are doing their best so I pray for them that their effort will be realised."

During the 10-day election campaign, Uno was shunned by his own party's candidates who made an unprecedented call for the prime minister to stay away from their districts because of the flurry of publicity over the recent sex scandal.

The LDP held 63 seats in the previous 127-seat Tokyo metropolitan assembly, which also comprises one of Japan's 47 prefectures, or states. The Komeito (Clean Party) had 29 seats, with 19 for the Japan Communist Party and 11 for the Socialist Party, Japan's top opposition party.

Uno conceded last week that his party would be satisfied if it could retain 50 seats.

"The situation is so shaky that factions within the Liberal Democratic Party have begun mapping out various scenarios," including his forced resignation before the summit or the July 23 upper house elections, the Mainichi newspaper said.

The Japan Times said the upper house poll "may herald the beginning of the end of the Liberal Democratic Party's 34-year-old rule of the country."

LDP secretary-general Ryutaro Hashimoto indicated yesterday he may be the first party official to resign if the conservative party suffers heavy losses.

In the Tokyo election, the breakdown of voters was 61.29 per cent women and 58.74 per cent men.



Recently arrived Vietnamese refugees perch themselves on rock ledges and abandoned houses at Tai Chau. (Reuters wirephoto)

Boat people living in filth
Hong Kong refugee camps full

HONG KONG, July 2, (Reuters): Two months ago, the beaches on Tai Chau in Hong Kong's Soko islands were deserted and clean, visited occasionally by pleasure boats carrying shouting children.

Now they are covered with excrement and littered with the debris of Vietnamese boat people. Half-deserted fishing boats, some used as makeshift dwellings, lie packed along the shoreline. The tiny anchorage is dominated by the menacing grey patrol boats of the British colony's marine police.

Gathered near the jetty, under a large British flag on a hastily erected bamboo flagpole, are some of the islands' 4,900 temporary inhabitants.

Hong Kong's refugee camps and detention centres are bursting at the seams with some 47,500 boat people and the government decided last month to send new arrivals to the deserted Soko islands.

The future looks bleak for boat people in Hong Kong which now classifies them as illegal immigrants unless they can prove they are genuine refugees — and only a handful do. The only option now remaining is to return to the land they fled.

Some 142 have already returned voluntarily and another 236 are waiting to go.

Diplomatic sources say Britain, Hong Kong and Vietnam have reached basic agreement on forced repatriation, which could start towards the end of this month.

A walk along the shore of Tai Chau takes a visitor to what police Superintendent Rod Colson ironically calls "the residential quarter."

Flies buzz round piles of garbage and the stench of excrement hangs heavy in the humid air. Groups of Vietnamese sit or lie listlessly under awnings provided by the British Army or makeshift shelters made of plastic and driftwood.

"Hello, cigarette?" is the constant cry from the ragged, barefoot children who never leave a visitor's side.

"You American. I want to go America," said Huang, a man in his early 20s with the eyes of an old man.

Momentarily downcast when he discovered his visitor was British — "I no go England" — he explained how he had come with his family from the Haiphong area of northern Vietnam.

"We got into a fishing boat, 122 people, pay gold. We go several times to China, but we want to come to Hong Kong," he said.

They had been aware of Hong Kong's tough policy which made it virtually certain that Huang, a street trader, would be held as an illegal immigrant pending repatriation.

Huang said he and his family still hoped to go to the United States, a wish prevalent among many boat people.

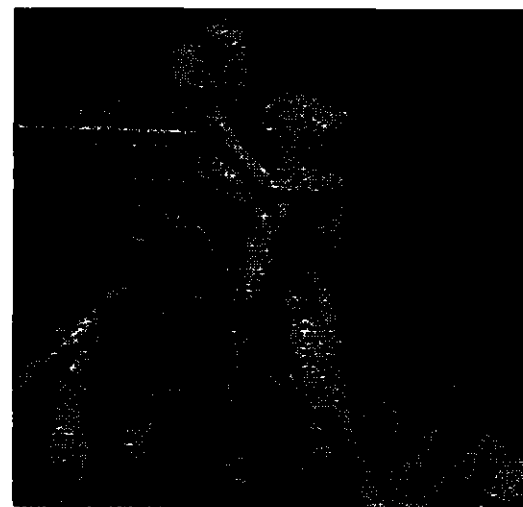
The boat people can live where they like in the Soko for two or three weeks until they are moved to a detention centre.

Group leaders are assigned ration cards but to reduce the threat of disease, no food is issued unless the group turns in a plastic bag full of garbage.

Colson said the police were gradually refurbishing derelict buildings on the island and would be erecting a cookhouse.

"Right now we can't give them rice. They get baked beans, tinned fish, and biscuits," he said.

Government health workers spray the areas where the boat people live to get rid of flies and police say they are educating their charges of clear up rubbish and use designated latrines.



Supporters of the Chinese pro-democracy movement unveil a statue of the Goddess of Democracy, at a rally in San Francisco, US. (Reuters wirephoto)



A Chinese soldier, armed with a light machine gun, stands guard outside the US embassy in Beijing. (Reuters wirephoto)

China bid to boost image

(Continued from Page 1)

the confidence of China's students at home and overseas, many of whom supported the protests for a free press, more open government and an end to corruption.

Chinese troops had to fire on pro-democracy protesters because the security forces had insufficient tear gas and no rubber bullets or water cannon, Li Peng said.

The People's Daily also quoted Wan Li, chairman of the National People's Congress, as saying that the situation in China was complicated and the country

lacked experience. "There are errors in our work and things that anger the public, such as unequal economic growth and income distribution, slackness in the party, producing corruption," he told a delegation from Guyana.

One of the Chinese student leaders of the crushed pro-democracy movement said yesterday a change in China's government will not come via a civil war.

Sheng Ton, 20, leader of the Beijing University students negotiating delegation, said in a telephone interview, "I don't

think it's possible to begin a civil war."

The US sanctions against China that were first thought to affect only a limited number of shipments actually are stopping hundreds of millions of dollars worth of exports, the Washington Post said today.

Thousands of Hong Kong residents, shouting "shame, Britain, shame," marched through the colony today to protest the arrival of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and his country's refusal to provide refuge for the colony's people.

3 policemen shot dead

TAIPEI, July 2, (UPI): Three policemen were shot and killed and another was wounded during a chase in southern Taiwan today, police said.

The officers were gunned down at around 1:20 am after chasing six suspected criminals into a building in Kaohsiung city, police said.

They said the policemen had stopped to investigate two cars parked by the roadside when the two men emerged from one car and ran.

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مركز سلطان
THE SULTAN CENTER

KGB spy seen as troubled romantic

MOSCOW, July 2, (UPI): A US naval defector who took his life last month wrote a suicide note in which he expressed the wish to be buried in a KGB uniform and then locked himself in his car and turned on the gas, newspapers said yesterday.

Pravda, the official newspaper of the Communist Party, also reported that Glenn Michael Southern sent the government a letter seeking Soviet citizenship in 1986 — the year he disappeared from the United States, but two years before he surfaced publicly in Moscow.

The Red Army newspaper published a glowing obituary Tuesday for Southern, the US Navy intelligence officer who the Soviets claim adopted the name Mikhail Orlov after he defected following years of covert service for Moscow.

The obituary said Southern "died suddenly" June 22, and a senior KGB official told reporters Wednesday that he had killed himself.

Izvestia, the government newspaper, said yesterday that Southern helped prevent nuclear war through his espionage for the Kremlin.

The Pravda and Izvestia articles portrayed a hypersensitive, troubled romantic who arrived in the Soviet Union as a believer in communism but took his life because "his nerves failed."

Suicide notes

The 32-year-old Southern wrote suicide notes to his mother, his Soviet wife and their daughter and to fellow Soviet agents on the evening of June 22 at his "dacha," or summer cottage, outside Moscow, Izvestia said.

"Then he went to the garage at his dacha," it said. "He started his Zhiguli (Soviet-made car), closed the door of the garage and tied down on the back seat. Carbon monoxide started filling the car."

Co-workers alarmed by Southern's absence the next day went to the dacha, Izvestia said.

"They found him dead in the back seat of his car," it said. "The engine of the car was still warm." Southern was a passionate reader of the romantic Russian poet Vladimir Mayakovsky, who killed himself in 1930 at the age of 37, Pravda said.

Months before his death, Southern had said in a Soviet television interview that he was lonely and unhappy with his job, and Pravda acknowledged yesterday that "certainly what Mikhail saw in the USSR was not what he had dreamed about in the United States."

The author of the Izvestia article said it was based partially on recollections of an unidentified friend of Southern who the author said came to the newspaper's offices.

"Mikhail worked a lot," Izvestia said. "There were instances when he plunged into depression, but nobody foresaw the tragic outcome. Evidently, everything affected him."

Last word

Pravda said Southern's longest suicide note was addressed to his "colleagues" at the KGB Soviet intelligence agency.

"Justice demands that you hear my last word," Pravda quotes the letter as saying. "I do not regret our relationships. They go back a long way, and they helped me grow as a person. I want to be buried in the uniform of an officer of the KGB."

Pravda carried excerpts from a letter it said Southern wrote "three years ago" to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

"I ask for Soviet citizenship because I am convinced of the correctness of the idea of collectivism," Pravda quoted the letter as saying.

"Having served for 10 years in the US Navy, I state with full responsibility that the US government will never do anything for the establishment of peace on the planet from pure and honest motives until it is quite sure of its military superiority," the alleged letter said.

Pravda also quoted Southern as saying yesterday: "The second political thought that made me leave America and ask for Soviet citizenship is the fact that the United States treats other nations with contempt."

Victims of random shootings triple in major US cities

WASHINGTON, July 2, (UPI): The number of innocent bystanders hit by stray bullets in major US cities has more than tripled over the past three years, according to a study released yesterday.

New York, Los Angeles, Boston and the District of Columbia experienced a substantial increase in bystander shootings, almost non-existent 10 years ago, said the report by University of Maryland criminologist Lawrence W. Sherman.

The study defines a bystander as anyone struck by a bullet aimed at someone other than the person hit,

or by bullets aimed generally at a crowd rather than at a specific individual.

According to the report, bystander victims in New York rose from 34 between 1977-79, to 128 between 1986-88. While stray bullet shootings remained fairly constant during the 11-year period, people shot indiscriminately in crowds rose eightfold, from 13 in 1977-79 to 102 in 1986-88.

Los Angeles experienced an even larger increase, from no bystanders reported shot in 1977-79 to 105

in 1986-88, the study said. The increases in Boston and the US capital have been smaller on a per capita basis, largely because those cities have had fewer incidents of wild shootings into crowds.

"Homicide in America is becoming more barbaric," said Sherman. "The growing contempt for accidental victims is even indicated by the name killers give them 'mushrooms' who 'pop up' in the line of fire."

His study is titled, "Stray Bullets and

Mushrooms: Random Shootings of Bystanders in Four Cities, 1977-88."

A "mushroom" is street slang for a bystander struck by a bullet intended for someone else, Sherman said.

The increasing number of guns in circulation, more drug deal disputes and a trend toward directing anger from one person to an entire group could all be factors in the increase in bystander victims, Sherman said.



Hefner takes Kimberly Conrad as his bride Saturday at the Playboy mansion in Los Angeles. (Reuter wirephoto)

Playboy marries playmate

Tearful bunny bride says 'I do'

LOS ANGELES, July 2, (UPI): Hugh Hefner, whose Playboy empire and highly publicized affairs made him an icon of US hedonism, ended three decades of bachelorhood yesterday, taking a 26-year-old Playmate of the Year as his bride.

Hefner, 63, a tear inched down his cheek, said, "You are my beloved. You are my best friend," as he slipped a wedding band on the ring finger of Kimberly Conrad in a ceremony at the publisher's legendary Playboy mansion.

Hefner, who was referred to as Hef throughout the ceremony, did not receive a ring from his bride, who dabbed at her teary eyes during the 15-minute ceremony.

When Hefner gave the fateful reply, "I do," the minister, the Rev. Charles Ara, raised his head to the celebrity-laden crowd and proclaimed, "He said it. Everyone heard him."

After the couple kissed, Ara asked guests seated

on the lawn of Hefner's 29-room mansion to pronounce the couple husband and wife, and the crowd, including at least two of Hefner's former live-in girlfriends, obliged in unison.

As Hefner, who last recited marriage vows in 1949, strode in a black, vested tuxedo to the mansion's stone wishing well that served as the altar, he appeared to sigh. But when his bride, groomed in off-white silk, approached along a 40-yard ribbon of white cloth, he smiled slightly.

During the non-denominational ceremony, which Ara sprinkled with wisecracks, the minister advised the couple, "You have to remember the grass isn't greener on the other side," and reminded them that they must "water the grass."

Celebrating the nuptials were about 400 guests, including Jack Nicholson, Angie Dickinson, Bill Cosby, Cornel Wilde, Tony Curtis, Berry Gordy, Roxanne Pulitzer and Jessica Hahn.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

ROME: No sleeping on the Spanish steps or foot-soaking in the square's Bernini Fountain, the city has decreed in an effort to keep bright the image of Rome's famed tourist area.

The Committee for Order and Public Safety also warned that a law forbidding wearing bathing suits or revealing clothing will be strictly enforced.

Last week's action came in response to demands by the area's merchants and residents following an increase in the past month in vagrancy, purse snatchings, drug dealing and attempted rapes.

The mayor's office also promised 24-hour police patrols, better lighting and more street sweepers.

The fountain at the foot of the steps is a favourite of tourists, who like to sit soaking their aching feet in the boat-shaped basin. (AP)

HENNINGFORD, Quebec: About 80 Japanese monkeys were on the loose after escaping from a safari park and some crossed the nearby US border, zoo officials said.

The monkeys had escaped Thursday morning, said Danny Kyle, an owner of Parc Safari, some 56 miles (90 kilometers) southeast of Montreal.

Apparently they managed to find or create a faulty hinge on the door to their compound, Kyle said.

By Saturday most of them were living in a large wooded area surrounding the reserve, but 10 or 12 made it over the border to the United States. (AP)

BALTIMORE: Travelling shows featuring dwarf-tossing contests are the latest outrage dwarfs find themselves fighting to preserve their dignity and safety, officials of the Little People of America Inc. said Saturday.

"Dwarf-tossing may help financially the person who does it. However, it tears down the structure and the esteem that little people are trying to gain," said association spokesman Ernie Ott.

Florida last week passed a law banning the barroom sport, helping short-statured people fight a lingering perception that they are "non-persons," Angela van Etten, a member of the Committee to Ban Dwarf Tossing, said at the association's annual conference.

Dwarf tossing and dwarf-bowling, in which a helmeted dwarf strapped to a skateboard is used as a human bowling ball, have been made part of travelling entertainment shows and have been reported in several states, she said. (AP)

KINGSTON, New York: A judge who suffered a back injury near the end of a murder trial decided Wednesday that it was better to lie down on the job than to delay justice.

Judge Francis Vogt ordered a hospital bed placed in the courtroom where he heard attorneys' summations Wednesday and sent the case of Jose Torres to the jury for deliberations. (AP)

counties participated in "Operation Rock Pile," which was organized by the Florida Sheriffs Association.

"From now on, it's going to be war," said Broward Sheriff Nick Navarro.

By 10 pm, the crackdown had netted 2,981 pieces of crack — a form of cocaine — nearly 10 pounds of cocaine and three pounds of other drugs, including heroin and steroids, Crotius said.

Authorities also seized more than \$44,300, 291 cars, a boat and 44 firearms, he said.

Diamond in the rough

Crew strikes gold

UNION CITY, California, July 2, (AP): Jennifer Weir has her wedding ring back — three months after it vanished down a toilet.

Weir, 25, called the Union Sanitary District after she lost the diamond ring during the Easter holiday and a crew came out and probed the sewer.

"It wasn't in any of the stuff that came out," Weir said.

Crew chief Manuel Terra told her it might take a few months for the ring to be washed from the house plumbing into the line in the street.

Three months later, the crew sent a water-powered cleaning ball through the line from one manhole to the next.

All of a sudden, Weir said, "The guy in the man-hole was yelling 'you struck gold'."

ANCHORAGE, Alaska: For the first time in more than 40 years, Soviet citizens in boats have paddled across the Bering Strait border to the American side of the International Dateline and were on an Alaskan Eskimo island Friday.

"This hasn't happened since before the cold war," said Dwight Milligrock Jr., town clerk on Little Diomed Island.

Three traditional Eskimo walrus skin boats called Umiaqs brought a dozen Soviets, six Russians and six Siberian Yupik Eskimos, to Little Diomed, where they set foot on American soil without any formal official federal government admissions procedures.

"It's just like we're next-door neighbours," Milligrock said with a certain irony. His island is a mere 2-1/2 miles from Soviet territory, but there has been little neighbourly contact in more than four decades because of the political obstacles presented by the "Ice Curtain" border, now thawing. (UPI)

WHITNEY POINT, New York: Raymond English celebrated his 106th birthday Saturday in the town where he was born and the thrice-married chicken farmer shared his secret for longevity: love of the opposite sex.

"I never smoked or drank, but yes, I chased the women, that kept me going," English said.

English was born in Whitney Point, 20 miles (32 km) north of Binghamton, on July 1, 1883. Today, living in the Christ Home Senior Residence, English can count two sons, four grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren. (UPI)

Priest offers \$50 for guns turned in

NAUGATUCK, Connecticut, July 2, (UPI): A Catholic priest concerned about recent suicides and the accidental shooting death of a child said yesterday he has offered his parishioners \$50 to turn in their guns.

The Rev. Edmund S. Nadolny said he was shocked when he asked people during a Mass last weekend to raise their hands if they owned a gun. More than 250 hands went up, he said.

"I was shocked by the number of people who had guns. Realizing that only 10 per cent of the people go

to church these days, there must be an arsenal of guns in Naugatuck," Nadolny said.

Nadolny said he got the idea to offer \$50 — of his own money — to each parishioner who relinquished his or her gun after visiting people who attempted or contemplated suicide and after speaking with the family of a child killed in an accidental shooting.

"A gun is absolute violence. I see many people in the hospital who cut their wrists and don't die. But the only people I see who use guns are in the morgue," he said.

A heroin runner's paradise

LAGOS, July 2, (Reuter): Heroin from the golden crescent of Afghanistan, Pakistan and India often travels through the Gulf and African states before reaching Lagos where it is brought for repacking and reshipping to the US and Western Europe, according to the US Drug Enforcement Administration's office here.

West Africa, a fast expanding route for Asian heroin, is beginning to feel the effects of being a drug smuggler's paradise.

The amount of heroin and South American cocaine passing through the region's chaotic air and sea ports is growing fast. Some of it has spilled over into the domestic market sending addiction rates soaring, narcotics experts in the region said.

Five years ago Africa accounted for just five per cent of the heroin smuggled to America. Now it is between 20 and 25 per cent, according to John Pope, head of the US Drug Enforcement Administration's office in Lagos.

Much of it comes through Nigeria, which has three international airports and direct flights to the US and Western Europe.

"Heroin is bought in quantity in the source countries ... and brought to Nigeria for repacking and reshipping," Pope said.

Repacking in most cases means the courier or "mule" swallowing up to 180 balloons or condoms each stuffed with up to three grams (0.1 of an ounce) of white powder.

Reshipping means the drug runner using what Pope calls the shotgun method — putting 10 mules on a flight in the hope that half will get through.

Each courier used to take out about 250 grammes (half a pound) of heroin hidden in body cavities. But to catch in the lucrative "African Connection" runners have now switched to swallowing, which allows each mule to carry up to 700 grammes (1-1/2 pounds), Customs officers said.

One large woman was caught with a pouch slit beneath her navel. The drug had been stuffed between the skin and the flesh and the wound clamped.

"Drug barons prefer sending these small amounts to big ones... couriers are cheap and they lose less money if the drugs are discovered," said a Customs officer at Lagos Airport who asked not to be identified.

The mules are usually Nigerians with US green card resident permits. They can earn as little as \$5,000 a year (about \$650) for bringing the stuff into Nigeria and between \$1,500 and \$5,000 for exporting it, the Airport Customs officers said.

A senior airport customs official resented suggestions that security was bad and that smugglers could buy their way through. He admitted, however, that detection rates were low and said Lagos had virtually no detection equipment besides surgical gloves.



'Queen of Cocaine' dead

Veronica Rivera de Vargas, right, dubbed the 'Queen of Cocaine' by the local press, is shown in a 1983 file photograph after being arrested. Rivera was shot dead by a man on a motorcycle as she was stepping out of her car Friday night, police said. The woman on the left was also a member of a narcotics ring. (Reuter wirephoto)

Scandal rocks HUD

Out of control

WASHINGTON, July 2, (AP): After David Martin, his wife and his attorney gave up trying to audit accounts he held as a private agent for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, the government decided to take a crack at it.

When HUD auditors finished the math, they said Martin owed the government more than \$1.6 million for the period 1984-1987 but had only half that in the separate accounts he was required to keep for proceeds from the sale of single-family homes for the agency.

Martin's story is like dozens of others, tales that together show an agency with little control over its private agents and even less control over its own accounting for the hundreds of millions of dollars the agents handle. The details only now are coming into the open, and under the scrutiny of US investigators.

In Martin's case, the auditors decided \$839,812 was missing from his accounts in Atlanta.

Martin's attorney, Eugene Novy, protested and said in December 1987 letter to HUD that Martin could no longer afford to pay for legal services and that the government's efforts to trace the money "are fruitless."

The government disagrees, and is trying to recover the money plus interest in a \$7.5-million civil suit.

Audits of closing agents in Los Angeles, Tampa, Buffalo, Phoenix and elsewhere produced similar findings: Most of the agents were sending HUD its money late. Some weren't sending it at all. HUD, already strapped for funds because of cutbacks under former President Ronald Reagan, was losing millions of dollars a year in interest.

"Delays by closing agents in remitting sales proceeds cost HUD over \$16 million in fiscal year 1987," the agency's Inspector General's Office concluded after a nationwide audit of HUD's sales and acquisitions of single-family homes, one of numerous agency programmes.

The plot thickens in Cuban scandal

HAVANA, Cuba, July 2, (Agencies): The dramatic fall of a war hero in a drug trafficking scandal has shaken President Fidel Castro's government, and the full scale of the scandal has not yet been realised.

The drugs and corruption scandal, labelled "Castrogate" by diplomats in Havana, is unprecedented in Castro's 30-year-old rule. It has tarnished some of the island's most respected institutions and has led to the dismissal of the powerful Interior Minister General Jose Abrantes.

Former General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez, a war hero who commanded Cuban troops in Angola said during his trial that money from smuggling deals was intended to build hotels for foreign tourists on the island.

"Developing tourism would benefit Cuba," he told the court. Ochoa is among 15 high-ranking military officers indicted on charges of high treason and trafficking in cocaine, diamonds and ivory after the court-martial began late Friday, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina said in a dispatch monitored in Mexico.

All of the officers were stripped of their rank and expelled from the Communist Party last week.

If convicted, all 15 could face death by firing squad.

The second session of the military trial lasted into early this morning, the agency said.

Prensa Latina said Ochoa and two aides, Jorge Martinez and Antonio Rodriguez, admitted to the prosecutor that their actions "seriously endangered the prestige, morality and dignity of Cuba, its armed forces, people and government."

The trafficking also included sugar, manufactured articles and US dollars, the agency said.

Earlier dispatches from Havana said the defendants belonged to a secret division of the Interior Ministry that smuggled medicines, hospital supplies and computers to circumvent a US trade embargo.

Dressed in civilian clothes and standing with his back to the military and government officials, relatives and Cuban reporters at the trial, Ochoa said he was "thinking big" when he decided to enter international drug trafficking in 1987, the agency said. He said he planned to invest large amounts of money in hotel construction in Cuba through a yet-to-be-determined third party, but did not intend to turn the island into a drug trafficking centre.

Ochoa mentioned by name Cubanacan, a corporation set up in 1987 with the aim of converting tourism within 10 years into the nation's major hard currency earner with a target of \$1 billion per year.

Sources close to the investigation said Cubanacan head Abraham Maciques was under house arrest. There was no confirmation of this yesterday.

Maciques, seen as a "super minister of tourism," also heads Cuba's International Conference Centre and the Cubale State Enterprise, which provides services to diplomats and foreign presidents.

Meanwhile, a source close to the family of Communist Party Politburo member Osmany Cienfuegos said he had sought the protection of the Venezuelan embassy this week.

The source did not know if there was any link to the Ochoa case and the report could not be independently confirmed.

Cienfuegos is a vice-president of the Council of State with special economic responsibilities. Although little known abroad, he is considered one of the most powerful men in Cuba.

'Operation Rock Pile' nets 1700 crack arrests

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, July 2, (AP): Florida undercover police officers posing as drug dealers have arrested more than 1,700 people in a weekend crackdown on crack, officials said.

Officers at times made nearly 100 arrests an hour, and it was expected the total could top 2,000 before the 48-hour operation concluded after midnight yesterday, Broward County Sheriff's spokesman George Crotius said at the command centre here.

Nearly 1,000 officers in 61 of the state's 67

counties participated in "Operation Rock Pile," which was organised by the Florida Sheriffs Association.

"From now on, it's going to be war," said Broward Sheriff Nick Navarro.

By 10 pm, the crackdown had netted 2,981 pieces of crack — a form of cocaine — nearly 10 pounds of cocaine and three pounds of other drugs, including heroin and steroids, Crotius said.

Authorities also seized more than \$44,300, 291 cars, a boat and 44 firearms, he said.

About a third of the arrests were in the South Florida area from Key West to Fort Pierce, including Miami and Fort Lauderdale, said Crotius.

But authorities were surprised by the more than 320 arrests Friday and yesterday in the rural western panhandle.

"We thought that most of the action would be in the cities," said Crotius. "We didn't think we'd see that type of crack activity in the panhandle."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Reunification

LONDON, July 2, (KUNA): The head of the Soviet Army has said his country would not oppose the reunification of Germany.

In a television interview to be screened here tomorrow, General Valentin Vercenikov says: "Reunification is a matter for the German people."

General Vercenikov, commander-in-chief of Soviet land forces, adds: "How they decide their fate, the fate of the Germans and the future of their states as they develop — that is their business."

"West and East Germany are sovereign states. Of course at one time there was a single Germany, but now they are completely different states with different systems."

Easy come, easy go

KOUROU, French Guiana, July 2, (Reuters): Western European space officials yesterday shrugged off a costly delay in launching the Ariane rocket after averting a potential disaster seconds before blast-off.

The delay will cost several million francs (hundreds of thousands of dollars), Claude Sanchez, spokesman for the Arianeespace company, told a news conference.

But he added: "Although from a public relations point of view launch delays are undesirable, from a commercial, technical and industrial view the delays are not that serious. It is better to launch late and well than badly."

The launch was postponed on Friday for at least a week while New parts are flown from France and the rocket is given a thorough overhaul.

US forest fires

LOS ANGELES, July 2, (AP): Hundreds of firefighters battled forest fires yesterday in Colorado, California and Utah as flames consumed nearly 10,000 acres (4,050 hectares).

Officials were concerned about the potential for further blazes as thousands of people headed for parks for the American Independence Day holiday weekend.

More than 250 firefighters worked to contain four lightning-sparked blazes that had charred about 1,250 acres (505 hectares) in dry western and northern Colorado. One building was burned and people evacuated from more than half a dozen homes southwest of Grand Junction when the newest forest fire erupted.

Adams condemns

PARIS, July 2, (Reuters): Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams yesterday condemned a move by the US attorney general to deport Irish Republican Army (IRA) fugitive Joseph Doherty to Britain, saying it was a tragedy.

"British and US foreign policy is a policy of bipartisanship and Jo Doherty is a victim of that," the leader of the political wing of the IRA told reporters during a visit to Paris. "This is a tremendous tragedy."

US boy pilot

MOSCOW, July 2, (AP): Tony Allengena, an 11-year-old Californian who is flying a single-engine plane around the world, left Moscow yesterday for the next stop on his journey across the Soviet Union, the Tass news agency said.

He arrived in Moscow on Monday with a scroll already signed by nearly a 1,000 Soviet children that will be presented to US President George Bush. He hopes to eventually get 100,000 signatures.

The fourth-grader, flying a blue and white Cessna 210, took off from Sheremetevo airport for Kuibyshev, 450 miles (725 kilometres) southeast of Moscow, the next stop on his hopscotch journey across the Soviet Union en route to Alaska.

Peace prize

YAMOUSSOUKRO, Ivory Coast, July 2, (Reuters): UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor yesterday proposed creating a new peace prize named after Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouët-Boigny, one of Africa's elder statesmen.

The annual award for an individual or organisation would be known as "the Houphouët-Boigny International Prize for Peace Research." Mayor said in a speech ending a week-long conference on peace in this inland capital of Ivory Coast.

Ecology accord

WARSAW, July 2, (AP): Government leaders of Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia signed an agreement yesterday on co-operation in environmental protection, the state news agency PAP reported.

The agreement contains "commitments to prevent further degradation of the natural environment, particularly in border regions," the agency said.

Prime Ministers Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski of Poland, Ladislav Adamec of Czechoslovakia and Willi Stoph, chairman of the East German Council of Ministers met in the southwestern city of Wrocław for the signing ceremony, PAP said.



Dodging

BUENOS AIRES, July 2: Former Navy commander Emilio Massera, who is serving a life sentence for human rights violations, tries to avoid being photographed by a press photographer who spotted him walking in Buenos Aires. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gorbachev calls for ethnic peace

Official denounces liberals

MOSCOW, July 2, (Reuters): With ethnic tension and regional nationalism rising in many areas of the Soviet Union, President Mikhail Gorbachev warned the country could be pushed towards break-up and disaster.

The Kremlin chief delivered his grim message in a radio and television address to the Soviet people yesterday in a clear signal of mounting alarm in Moscow over recent bloody racial strike and calls in some Soviet republics for independence.

"Violence, which is becoming an inevitable corollary of enmity between ethnic groups, has always bred evil and immorality," he said.

"Irresponsible slogans, political provocations, setting one nation against another... could lead to disaster for all of us," declared Gorbachev who has reserved direct broadcasts to the country for occasions he sees as of key importance.



Gorbachev: nationalism criticised

Aid to be sought Gorbachev to visit France

MOSCOW, July 2, (Agencies): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to seek economic aid for modernising industry and to outline his grandiose vision of a "common European home" when he visits France later this week.

But Gorbachev, greeted with adulation by crowds in West Germany last month, can expect a more reserved reception from the French during his three-day stay from July 4 to 6.

A lucrative trade deal is unlikely as any undertaking approaching a declaration of principles in bilateral relations concluded amid much fanfare with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Relations with France were severely strained after President Francois Mitterrand began his first term in office in 1981 with Paris denouncing human rights abuses and supporting the deployment of US nuclear missiles in Europe.

But Gorbachev chose France as his first stop in the West after becoming Communist Party chief in 1985 and relations have since improved steadily, with the

two leaders meeting practically every year.

Since his re-election last year, Mitterrand has also been developing France's weak relations with Eastern Europe and has so far visited Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Poland, with a further trip planned to East Germany.

Both French and Soviet officials predict few ripples in the talks, with even the delicate question of France's independent nuclear deterrent unlikely to cause public disagreement.

Moscow has long demanded French nuclear missiles be counted as short-range weapons in global disarmament talks. Mitterrand repeated his firm opposition to this at the May NATO summit.

The climax of Gorbachev's visit could come during his speech to the Council of Europe's parliamentary assembly in Strasbourg — an ideal platform to provide more detail on his so-far vague idea of a common home embracing Eastern and Western Europe.

Looking stern through the 20-minute address, he said fate of his perestroika reform programme "as well as the destiny and unity of our state" largely depend on a solution to the country's ethnic problems.

His speech came after months of ethnic tension and occasional bloody clashes in the Caucasus and Central Asia which have led to the deaths of at least 200 people and to tens of thousands of refugees fleeing areas where they had lived for years alongside other racial groups.

But Gorbachev, 58, left no doubt his message was also aimed at the peoples of the Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia — and more recently of Moldavia in the southwest — who have been increasing pushing towards autonomy.

"One should recognise that calls for economic autarchy and cultural isolation are profoundly alien to the basic interests of any people and of our entire society," he declared in a clear reference to the republics' programmes for more independence from Moscow.

"Realisation of such calls would throw all of us a long way backwards and would bring huge material and moral losses to each nation and to every person," he said.

His speech, which he said was addressed to the "hearts and minds" of the more than 100 peoples of the Soviet Union, came as news reached Moscow of a new racial flare-up, this time between Georgians and Azerbaijanis in Trans-Caucasia.

Both the Georgian Communist Party newspaper Zarya Vostoka and the government newspaper Izvestia in the Soviet capital said troops had been sent to a region south of the capital, Tbilisi, to contain the latest violence.

Zarya Vostoka said gangs of Georgians, a people of Christian tradition, had clashed late last month with Azerbaijanis, who have a Muslim background. One man had been killed and 22 people seriously injured, according to the newspaper.

In his speech, Gorbachev said present and future generations of Soviet people would curse those who had stoked ethnic tensions "as well as those who failed to caution against it and the dangers involved in time and prevent madness."

"As president of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the USSR, I consider it my duty to warn you about the mounting danger of exacerbating inter-ethnic relations and its consequences for society, for every family and for every individual," he declared.

A senior Soviet politburo member said yesterday it would be a mistake to revive a multi-party system and denounced radical reformers for seeking to turn the country away from communism.

Vitaly Vorotnikov, president of the Russian Federation, told a meeting in the Siberian city of Chelyabinsk that the only way ahead for the Soviet Union was to strengthen the position of the Communist Party, according to a report issued by Tass.

Pravda launched a fierce attack on the conservative leadership of the western republic of Byelorussia, saying top party and government officials were increasingly out of touch with the people.

(See Page 8)

Labour Party ahead in poll

LONDON, July 2, (KUNA): Britain's main opposition Labour Party has a 10-point lead over the ruling Conservatives in a new opinion poll, conducted after the recent European elections.

But there is yet more humiliation for the centre parties, with the Greens again above them in third place, according to a Mori survey published in today's Sunday Times newspaper here.

The poll puts Labour at 47 per cent (43 per cent last month), the Conservative Party 37 per cent (41 per cent), the Greens seven per cent (two per cent), the Democrats four per cent (seven per cent), the SDP three per cent (four per cent).



Going home

WARSAW, July 2, (AP): A Soviet training tank regiment left Poland yesterday as part of series of East bloc troop withdrawals previously announced by Moscow, the state-run news agency PAP reported.

Lt Col Vladimir Lezniov, commander of the regiment, was quoted as saying the tank regiment stationed in Strachow, near Legnica about 400 kilometres (247 miles) southwest of Warsaw, returned to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet general staff in January announced plans to withdraw some 50,000 troops and 5,000 tanks from East

Germany, Hungary and Czechoslovakia and Poland by 1990.

The withdrawals began April 24 in Hungary. PAP said that by July 1 the Soviet Union will have withdrawn over 3,000 tanks, about 600 artillery guns, 40 planes and about 26,000 soldiers from socialist countries with the biggest reductions coming from East Germany.

In all, 90 tanks, about 50 planes and over 60 helicopters would be withdrawn, the agency said.

Two Soviet soldiers of the departing Soviet tank regiment, give the V for victory sign (Reuters wirephoto)

Walesa keeps out of race

WARSAW, July 2, (Agencies): Solidarity legislators decided yesterday that their leader Lech Walesa will not be a candidate for president, a post Communist leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski already has forsworn. Solidarity also limited that it wanted to form a government.

"The time is not good for Walesa now," Parliament Deputy Jacek Onyszkiewicz said after a meeting of the legislators. "We are not in a democratic system and we don't think Lech Walesa should be the president in the system which is not fully democratic."

Walesa said before the meeting that Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak has a better chance to be elected to the new presidency than Jaruzelski, who said Friday he doesn't plan to run. Jaruzelski said he is too closely linked in public opinion to the 1981 martial-law crackdown. He recommended Kiszczak for the job.

During their meeting yesterday, legislators considered putting up their own candidate. The obvious choice would be Walesa, Onyszkiewicz said.

But he said as president, Walesa would not be formally in charge of the Army and the police and thus would not have "very much control." Walesa reportedly had said he would not run this time.

The Sejm and the Senate — the two Houses of the National Assembly — are to convene separately July 4, the state-run news agency PAP said. The first joint session is expected later in the week.

The President is to be elected jointly by the Sejm and the Senate. The communist coalition has a 300-259 advantage in the assembly.

Solidarity sources said Jacek Kuron and Adam Michalik, top advisers to Walesa, proposed supporting a communist presidential candidate in exchange for the right to form a government.

Solidarity officials had previously said the union was neither ready to assume power nor interested in joining a coalition government dominated by communists.

But diplomatic sources said yesterday that Bronislaw Geremek, Walesa's top political strategist and Solidarity's parliamentary floor leader, had also indicated privately he now favoured the formation of a Solidarity government.

Solidarity's legislators, who easily outnumbered the communists, 173 deputies after the union's landslide triumph in last month's party-free parliamentary elections, appear to hold the key to victory in the presidential election.

Greek govt. is sworn in

Short-term cabinet

ATHENS, July 2, (Agencies): Greece's new conservative Prime Minister Tzannetakis was sworn in today at the head of an unprecedented conservative-communist coalition government.

The ceremony at the presidential palace in central Athens brought down the curtain on eight years of socialist rule under flamboyant and unpredictable Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

Tzannetakis, 62, a former Navy officer jailed by a military junta in 1967, said he will preside over a short-term, perhaps three-month, interim government with a single aim.

"The only purpose of this government is to have the law concerning the responsibility of former ministers lifted and hand over the guilty to justice," he told reporters.

The outgoing Socialist government has been hit by a series of multi-million-dollar financial scandals, with accusations that a number of senior ministers have been involved.

A communist alliance held the key to power in the 300-seat Parliament after inconclusive elections on June 18. It has two ministers — justice and interior — in the 23-member cabinet sworn in with Tzannetakis.

The conservative New Democracy Party and the Communist Party and the Communist Party, for years bitter foes after fighting in a 1946-49 civil war, joined forces only to ensure immunity from prosecution was lifted on the outgoing socialist ministers.

Only the first Parliament which sits after an election has the power to lift immunity on previous ministers, otherwise the case is closed.

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The Communists rejected forming a left-wing coalition with Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK), which has 125 seats, saying the socialist government must be "cleansed" of the scandals.

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Sofia trying to slow flight

ANKARA, July 2, (Reuters): Turkish officials said a labour shortage was apparently forcing Bulgaria to slow down the flight of ethnic Turks across the frontier where by today 100,000 had crossed.

They quoted recent arrivals in Turkey as saying Bulgaria was slowing down the issue of new passports following 300,000 applications in 15 days in June.

"About 4,000 of our kinsmen are still arriving each day but new comers say there has been a slowdown in giving new passports," Edirne province Governor Unal Erkan said.

Other official said they had reports that Bulgaria recently stopped issuing new passports until Sept 1 and was keeping back young men for military service.

Kenan Guven, Governor of neighbouring Kırklareli province, said the number of refugees fleeing a forced Bulgarian assimilation campaign reached 100,000 today.

To overcome shortages caused by the exodus of many skilled workers, Bulgaria has issued a decree allowing firms to cut holidays, retrench office workers and stop non-essential work.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz has accused Bulgaria of a crime against humanity and of cultural genocide in its treatment of ethnic Turks since Sofia's campaign began in 1984.

"The Bulgarian government has been persistently committing a premeditated crime against humanity," he said yesterday.

Turkey has said it is ready to accept all the estimated two million ethnic Turks in Bulgaria — a leftover from Ottoman-Turkish rule.

Yilmaz told a news conference between 5,000 and 10,000 of the refugees were believed to have been deported by Bulgaria since May.

He said at least 60 ethnic Turks were killed and a sizeable number were injured in May when Bulgarian forces tried to stamp out anti-assimilation protests. Sofia says seven died.

"I think at the beginning Bulgaria thought Turkey would have panicked about the number of people intending to come and that we would close our border as we did during a similar exodus in 1930," a Foreign Ministry source said.

Official sources said Ankara, seeking a full emigration pact with Sofia to safeguard the rights of ethnic Turks, was keen on an annual quota arrangement of about 50,000 with Bulgaria.

See leaving home

Page 8

Many held after riots kill 11 in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, July 2, (AP): Hundreds of people were detained and troops were rushed into a tribal homeland town after rioting killed nine policemen and two civilians, according to witnesses, police and news reports.

Four policemen died when a mob set fire to their vehicle, and five more were stoned and shot to death during yesterday's rampage, police Colonel DA George said in a statement.

The two civilians died from police gunfire and an undetermined number of others were believed to have been wounded, according to witnesses who would not be identified.

Seven more wounded people went to hospitals for treatment overnight and were presumed to have been involved in the disturbance, a police spokesman told the South African Broadcast Corporation.

Bophuthatswana Army troops were called into the town of Leeuwfontein, 230 kilometres (150 miles) northwest of Johannesburg, to prevent further rioting today. The troops also prevented journalists from entering the street.

Americans moved to military bases

PANAMA CITY, July 2, (AP): Thousands of American servicemen and civilians this weekend finished moving into southern command bases in Panama in another show of US displeasure with de facto ruler Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The mass move will deprive Panama's already battered economy of about \$60 million a year, which the Americans were spending. They will now spend their money in US-run stores and other facilities inside the southern command.

A total of 6,400 Americans, including dependents, were involved in the move, ordered last April by the Defence Department, apparently to increase pressure on Noriega to step down as defence forces chief.

Some were servicemen and others civilian employees of the southern command and its various

branches — and all of them had been living off base in houses and apartments.

"It is going to be hard to rent those apartments again soon," said a superintendent of a 34-apartment building. The building had just been leased early this year by the southern command for its servicemen and employees.

A real estate agent said the owners "went into debt to finance improvements for the building, such as special water tanks, air conditioning, security conditions for a contract with the US military."

The Americans were paying \$15 million a year in rents alone in Panama and, this and the rest of the money they spent, helped keep the country's economy barely afloat after more than a year of US economic sanctions.

Uprising leaders condemn the US

Palestinian boy shot and killed in clash

62 candidates

NICOSIA, July 2, (Reuters): Registration of candidates for Iran's July 28 presidential election closed today with 62 names on the list.

Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani is the only one whose name has been officially published, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. Rafsanjani is considered the front-runner to succeed Ali Khamenei.

The Council of Guardians, an Islamic watchdog group, will vet candidates and announce the names of those qualified within five to 10 days. It is expected to eliminate all but a handful of candidates, as in the last polls four years ago when only four people stood.

EPLF stance hailed

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia, July 2, (AP): A cabinet minister today described as "a positive development" last week's statement by a rebel group in northern Ethiopia denying it was a secessionist movement.

Foreign Minister Berhaneu Bayi told journalists that what remained was selection of a venue and time for the government's first meeting with rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front.

The EPLF is the dominant rebel group in the 28-year-old civil war in Ethiopia's northernmost Eritrea province.

Plane crash

ISLAMABAD, July 2, (AP): An Afghan government airplane crashed in Afghanistan's southern Helmand province, killing 35 people, a rebel-controlled news agency said today.

The Afghan news agency, headquartered in Islamabad, did not say whether last Monday's crash involved a civilian or military aircraft.

There was no independent confirmation. Afghanistan's state-controlled radio, a monitor in Islamabad, did not report the crash.

Yaqub Khan in Iran

NICOSIA, July 2, (Reuters): Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan arrived in Tehran today for talks on Afghanistan, the official Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

It quoted the Tehran Times newspaper as saying Iran wanted to agree a common strategy with Pakistan and the Soviet Union to settle the problem of Afghanistan, where Iran and Pakistan-based mujahideen groups are fighting the Kabul government.

Rocket attacks

ISLAMABAD, July 2, (Reuters): Eight people died and 14 were injured in rebel rocket attacks on the Afghan capital Kabul yesterday, official Kabul Radio said.

Eight surface-to-surface rockets fired into residential areas also burned two motor vehicles, it said.

The broadcast, monitored in Islamabad, blamed the attack on "criminal extremists," a description the Soviet-backed government uses for Muslim rebels who have fought it for more than 10 years.

Royal cemetery

BAGHDAD, July 2, (Reuters): Republican Iraq is to open a royal cemetery in Baghdad to the public 30 years after the Army toppled the monarchy.

The official Iraqi News Agency quoted sources at the Religious Affairs Ministry yesterday as saying people would be able to visit the cemetery to read a Holy Quranic verse for the dead.

The government spent \$3.2 million this year to renovate the cemetery housing the remains of King Faisal I, founder of modern Iraq, his son Ghazi and grandson Faisal II.

Soviet message

BAGHDAD, July 2, (KUNA): Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh left here today for Damascus after two days of talks with Iraqi leaders in Baghdad.

The Soviet official yesterday delivered a verbal message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein concerning bilateral relations and the recent developments in the region.

Bessmertnykh also held talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Fact-finding mission

ALEXANDRIA, July 2, (AP): Fourteen US congressmen on a fact-finding mission met today with President Hosni Mubarak and said the United States would continue its support of Egyptian policies.

Following a 90-minute meeting in the Mediterranean city, the head of the delegation, Rep. William Grey III, D, Pennsylvania, told reporters that his meeting with Mubarak was "outstanding."

"The meeting was outstanding. It provided us with an opportunity to review our commitment to Egypt," said Grey, who is on the House of Representatives appropriations committee.

New leader

BAGHDAD, July 2, (Reuters): The pro-government Kurdistan Democratic Party in Iraq elected a new secretary-general to replace ailing leader Hashem Hassan Aqrabi, Al-Iraq newspaper said today.

It said that the party last Tuesday chose Ahmed Mohammed Saeed Al Atroushi to succeed Aqrabi, who resigned his post as State Minister representing Iraq's Kurdish minority in May.

ACC HQ in Amman

AMMAN, Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) signed an accord today to base its headquarters in Amman, the state-run news agency Petra said.

The accord was signed by Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Qasem and ACC Secretary-General Helmi Nammar in the presence of the ambassadors of the other three members of the economic bloc — Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 2, (Agencies): Underground leaders of the Palestinian revolt today condemned the US position in the Middle East conflict as "biased towards the Zionist enemy" and called for international pressure on the United States.

Also today, a 12-year-old Palestinian boy was shot and killed in a clash between troops and Arab stone throwers in the West Bank village of Idna.

The clash erupted when troops "encountered violent resistance" as they entered the village to arrest suspects, an Army spokesman said. He

said the Army was investigating the exact circumstances of the boy's death.

The victim, identified as Khalil Awad Al Tabran, was shot in the chest and pronounced dead on arrival at Afia hospital in nearby Hebron, hospital officials said.

The death raised to 539 the number of Palestinians killed in the 18-month revolt against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Twenty-three Israelis also have been killed.

Israeli Army reveals data

35 a year commit suicide

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 2, (AP): An average of 35 soldiers a year commit suicide in the Israeli Army, the head of the Army's personnel department said in a newspaper interview published today.

Thirty-two soldiers committed suicide between April 1988 and April 1989, Maj. Gen. Matan Vilnai told the daily Haaretz. The military command confirmed the figures.

Vilnai's interview was a departure from the military's customary reluctance to provide data on suicide among troops, which it fears might have a negative effect on soldiers' morale.

No figures on the attempted suicides were given. Vilnai was not asked about whether any of the suicides were related to the 18-month Palestinian uprising.

Vilnai said that 30 per cent of those committing suicide are reserve soldiers troubled by family and financial problems, who are pushed into the act by the availability of weapons and

the hope that relatives would get financial compensation from the Army.

Israeli men are drafted at the age of 18 for a three-year period of regular duty, and serve up to 40 days a year as reservists until age 55. Women are drafted for a two-year regular service, and some of them are required to serve as reservists afterward.

Vilnai said an average of two of three female soldiers commit suicide every year. He said most of the regular soldiers who have killed themselves did so during the first year of their military duty.

Of the thirty-two soldiers who have committed suicide during the Army's last "work year," Vilnai said, only four cases could not be traced back to pre-service circumstances.

Haaretz said the Army's personnel department has recently issued instructions on how to locate troubled soldiers in hope of preventing suicides.

Toxins halted in Dubai

BONN, July 2, (AP): Officials in Dubai intercepted tons of a mustard gas chemical component on board a West German ship before it could be delivered to Iran, government sources said today.

"Harbour authorities, assisted by West German officials, identified the cargo when it was unloaded in Dubai," said a high-ranking government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Six containers filled with the substance were then reloaded and the ship has since begun its return journey to Bombay," the official said.

The official said he did not know how many tons of the chemical were in the containers inspected in Dubai.

In Dubai, a container section official at Port Rashid said the vessel, the West German-owned Seacrest Pioneer, arrived early yesterday and began unloading its cargo of containers.

The official said the vessel then began loading other containers for the return trip to Bombay. "Everything was proceeding normally," he said.

"But late Saturday, the container section got a surprise telephone call from the port's general manager's office asking us to return the six containers, and we did it before the vessel sailed out," he said.

The official quoted the port's acting general manager, David Gibson, as saying in his telephone order that "those six containers substances that are dangerous for the port."

Police arrived on the scene to ensure that the six containers were reloaded on the vessel, the harbour official said.

He said part of the cargo unloaded and allowed to remain on the dock was destined for trans-shipment to the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas.

The official said those containers were to be trucked to Hamriya, the smallest of the three ports in Dubai after Port Rashid and Jebel Ali. The contents of that shipment were not known.

Hamriya is the trans-shipment point to Iranian ports.

West German government official on Friday said the vessel was carrying a shipment of the chemical thionyl chloride bound for Iran.

Government officials today confirmed that the shipment aboard the vessel was part of a deal arranged by a West German company and that its intended destination was Iran.



File photographs of Brigadier Omar Hassan Al Bashir. Left photo is dated 1973 and right photo is dated March 1970. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mahdi still on the run: junta

(Continued from Page 1)

to Sudan's new military government.

"Kuwait considers what happened an internal affair," said a government statement issued after the weekly cabinet meeting.

"It wishes the Sudanese government and people success in maintaining national unity and strengthening security and stability so they can direct their energy toward building, development and achieving more prosperity," said the statement, carried by the official Kuwait News Agency.

In a separate statement, the junta announced that coup leader Lt Gen. Omar Hassan Ahmed Al Bashir had appealed for recognition and support from the United States in a meeting with the US ambassador to Sudan.

Bashir told the ambassador that the new rulers had the full support of the military and that he had acted only to prevent the "fading away" of the country through economic and political deterioration.

He urged the United States to appreciate the circumstances that forced him to move and charged that Sadiq's freely elected government "was not related in any way to a genuinely democratic system," the statement said.

Earlier today, Bashir pledged to appoint a non-partisan civilian cabinet and issue new proposals for ending a six-year-old war with southern-based rebels in his first press interviews since seizing power.

He said he planned to contact

the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army and its "influencing friends," a clear reference to Ethiopia and Kenya which Sudan has accused of providing military and financial aid to the rebels.

Bashir also stressed that his approach to resolving the war would be "through dialogue and negotiation," and said more details would be provided in a statement within the next two days.

In the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, SPLA spokesmen continued to refuse to comment on the new military leadership.

A round of peace talks between the rebels and Mahdi's government had been scheduled to resume in Addis Ababa on Tuesday.

Bashir, who promoted himself from the rank of brigadier, also said he would work to relieve the country's economic distress and "strike hard" at black marketers in an interview carried in the armed forces newspaper, the only paper still allowed to publish.

Saudi Arabia wished Al Bashir success and said the military takeover was an internal affair.

"The government of Saudi Arabia considers the events in Sudan an internal affair — and would like to stress its keenness on continuing its brotherly economic and political ties with Sudan," an official source told the Saudi Press Agency.

Jordan has voiced confidence that the new military leadership in Sudan would be able to achieve national unity and restore security and stability.

He said the money was traced by the national security agency.

The Palestinian condemnation of the United States, contained in the latest uprising leaflet, came as US President George Bush reportedly sent a letter of support to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Israel Radio said Bush reassured Shamir of his "full backing" for the Israeli peace plan that calls for balloting in the occupied territories and negotiations with elected Palestinians on autonomy, or limited self-rule.

At the same time, the daily Haaretz newspaper reported Bush was angry over Shamir's continued support for building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, which run counter to US policy calling for Israel to give up land in exchange for peace.

Haaretz quoted Bush as saying "I don't understand this Shamir" as he banged his palm on a table at a meeting in Washington.

Financing of the settlements came up at a cabinet meeting today as some 30 mayors from working-class development towns within Israel chained themselves outside Shamir's office to demand urgent measures to combat unemployment, which has reached an average of 8.6 per cent.

The mayors met Shamir and Finance Minister Shimon Peres to discuss their town's economic hardships after heated exchanges with government ministers who left the weekly cabinet session to calm the demonstrators.

"Our settlements are about to collapse. This government shows more contempt for us than for prisoners," said Mayor Benny Shalita of Menachemia, explaining why they chained themselves like inmates.

"We want the government to give us an immediate solution today to the deficits and a long-term plan for the problem of unemployment," said Yossi Elul, Mayor of Hatzer Hagalit.

Peres blamed Israel's economic woes on the Palestinian uprising and the settlement drive in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"They spend a lot of money in Judea and Samaria and tell me to pay," Peres said on Israel Radio, using biblical names for the West Bank. The radio also quoted him as saying Israel "could not bear the combined burden of settlements and development towns."

About 70,000 Israelis live in 130 settlements among the 1.7 million Palestinian residents in the occupied lands.

The Palestinian leaflet, believed to be written by the radical wing of the so-called unified national leadership of the uprising, noted "the deteriorating economic situation" in Israel and called for further boycott of Israeli products.

Diversion of loan denied

BERLIN, July 2, (AP): Communist East Germany has denied allegations that it diverted millions of dollars in Western loans to support terrorist groups around the world.

The state-run ADN news agency, in a terse, one-sentence dispatch, said the allegations "do not correspond to the facts."

ADN said the statement came from "the responsible agency."

A former member of the US National Security Council said a \$600-million loan ended up in Libya and that \$60 million was given to terrorist groups in Libya, Northern Ireland, Colombia and West Germany.

According to Norman A. Bailey, a senior director of national security planning from 1981 to 1983, the loan was arranged by US and other Western banks in 1985.

He said the money was traced by the national security agency.



Bombing aftermath

Christian residents survey damage Sunday to houses in the residential area of Ashrafieh in Beirut, Lebanon. The neighbourhood was hit by pro-Syrian shelling which killed four men who were playing backgammon. (Reuters wirephoto)

Downing of Iranian plane not forgotten

WASHINGTON, July 2, (Reuters): Iranian commandos may still be poised to avenge the destruction of an Iranian passenger jet by a US warship a year ago tomorrow, US counter-terrorism experts say.

The State Department put US diplomatic posts on a worldwide alert this weekend as a routine hedge against possible retaliation.

Last July 3 the USS Vincennes, a guided-missile cruiser, shot down an Airbus A300 passenger plane of the government-owned airline, Iran Air, shortly after it took off on a routine flight across the Gulf from Bandar Abbas to Dubai. All 290 people aboard were killed.

The United States said the downing of the aircraft, mistaken for an attacking F14 Tomcat of the Iranian Air Force, was a "lawful act of self-defence," given the combat conditions that prevailed in the Gulf at the time.

Iranian Revolutionary Guards vowed revenge and a headline Tehran newspaper said today Iran will never forgive the United States for shooting down the aircraft.

"Such a crime can not be left forgotten and for this precise reason the Iranian nation sees America as its number one enemy and has said time and again it would not pardon it for its crimes," Jomhuri Eslami said in an editorial.

An Arab lawyer says a suit is under way in the United States against the manufacturers and designers of radar gear on the US warship.

The action is on behalf of over 200 heirs of 83 of the passengers, including relatives from Italy, India, Pakistan, and Yugoslavia, as well as many of Iranian descent living in the United Arab Emirates.

Asked by telephone today whether a claim against the US government would also be filed, Nagib Ghafour of the UAE law firm Lutfi and Co said: "We are at an advanced stage of that."

Ghafour said the suit in the Northern District of California court alleges that the ship's radar indicated to the crew that an Iranian fighter was diving to attack the Vincennes instead of showing a commercial airliner that was climbing.

Companies involved include US firm General Electric, Computer Sciences Corp., of Washington, Varian Associates of California, and Syscon Corp. from Wisconsin, he said.

Lutfi has joined with Californian law firms Heller and Owen, and Bruce, Albion and Bailey to fight the case, he added.

Khamenei's no to amendment

Rivalry growing

NICOSIA, July 2, (Agencies): Iran's supreme leader Ali Khamenei has rejected a proposed constitutional amendment to allow him to dissolve Parliament, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted a deputy as telling the Majlis (Parliament) that Khamenei wrote to the constitutional review council demanding that it drop the proposed amendment from its agenda.

Amendments passed by the council will be put to a national referendum on July 28, the same day as presidential elections.

Khamenei was chosen supreme leader of Iran following Ayatollah Khomeini's death on June 3.

"We thank our dear leader ... for continuing the path of the imam (Khomeini) in supporting the Majlis and the elected

deputies," said Deputy Ishaq Jahangiri, announcing Khamenei's rejection of the amendment.

The council approved the proposal two weeks ago allowing Iran's supreme leader to dissolve Parliament under certain conditions. This prompted 177 deputies to sign a petition expressing their concern.

The deputies said the amendment violated an article in the constitution saying the Majlis should always be active.

According to reports in London, only a month after the death of Khomeini, Khamenei and Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, the two men, who carved up his powers between them in what seemed a "political marriage of convenience" are already close to break-up.

Quoting "sources in Tehran," the Sunday Times newspaper said serious differences have come to light between Khamenei and Rafsanjani, the country's "leading power-broker" and the only candidate for presidential elections next month.

Khamenei has taken an increasingly radical line in his speeches, to the annoyance of the pragmatic Rafsanjani, who expects to take control of Iran after the elections and does not want his plans for a future rapprochement with the West preempted by radical rhetoric.

The paper pointed out that sources close to Rafsanjani said that in private meetings he had expressed "concern and growing annoyance" at Khamenei's persistent attacks against the West, in a series of fiery speeches in recent days.

Khamenei: refuse

Moscow can help Gulf peace

NICOSIA, July 2, (Reuters): An Iranian newspaper said today that Moscow could solve the "war of words" between Iraq and Iran, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

The agency, quoted the Tehran Times as saying that given the greatly improved relations between Tehran and Moscow, Iran expected the Soviet Union to use its influence to further peace between the Gulf war foes.

Moscow could "press Baghdad to halt its adventurous moves along the Iran-Iraq border," the paper said in an apparent reference to Iraqi moves to depopulate a 30-km-wide (20-mile) strip along its border with Turkey and Iran.

Talks between Iraq and Iran aimed at making permanent a ceasefire which halted the guns in the eight-year Gulf war last August have stalled on issues including the clearance of the war-debris blocked Shatt Al Arab waterway and the repatriation of prisoners of war.

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Alexandria tries to recapture some of its glory and glamour

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 2, (Reuters): The mirror where Darley first saw Justine still hangs in the Cecil, but otherwise little remains of the old hotel or the city immortalised in Lawrence Durrell's four-part novel "The Alexandria Quartet."

Once a cosmopolitan centre of culture and intrigue, the Mediterranean city of Alexandria has ceased much of its charm to industrialisation, high-rise buildings and overpopulation. And like Alexandria itself, the city's best-known hotel is but a shadow of its former self.

The hotel was the setting for many scenes in Durrell's books. It was the place where an obscure English schoolteacher named Darley first saw Justine, the Egyptian Jewish heroine, her face reflected in a mirror.

Most of "The Alexandria Quartet" is set in the 1930s, when the hotel Cecil boasted a glittering international clientele.

Now manager Mohamed Amiri is trying to recapture some of the hotel's former glory by reintroducing 1930s and 1940s style furnishings with art deco chairs, Chesterfield sofas and

chandeliers. The wrought iron staircase is being repolished and a revolving door reinstated at the entrance as the hotel celebrates its 60th birthday year.

Elsewhere in the city, others are also pushing to revive Alexandria's faded glamour.

The governor of Alexandria has ordered that all houses along the seafront be repainted, with government money if necessary. And in the autumn, the city is organising a festival of Alexandria world-wide to remind

people that towns from Australia to Canada might use the name — but the northern Egyptian city is the one that started it all.

Founded in 332 BC by Alexander the Great on a narrow strip of land sandwiched between the sea and a marshy saltwater lake, Alexandria was Egypt's capital for more than 1,000 years.

It was the place where the Bible was translated, where Cleopatra is said to have killed herself by poisonous snakebite, and where in 1952, the last monarch of Egypt, King Farouk, was forced to abdicate.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Gulf clean-up plan under review

ROPME meeting opens

KUWAIT, July 2, (KUNA): The third meeting of the Regional Organisation for Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME) started here today to review a work plan on cleaning the waters from pollution.

Acting Executive Secretary of ROPME, Kuwaiti Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi emphasised the importance of this meeting, noting that

several experts in various fields of marine environment are participating.

Awadi's speech to the opening session was delivered on his behalf by Dr Badria Al Awadi.

Assistance

He also said that representatives of United Nations organisations and international consultative organisations are also

participating in the current conference, noting that these groups are ready to provide assistance to prepare the final formula of the ROPME plan.

Awadi added that elements of marine forces and coast guards of member states are also taking part in today's meeting.

The two-day meeting aims at checking the special reports on location, types and numbers of

sunken ships and means of removing them from Gulf waters.

The planning minister has noted that the ROPME plan costs around KD 500,000 or about \$1.8 million.

According to officials in the region the number of sunken commercial ships reached 24 according to statistics of Lloyds Insurance Company.



Public Service Exhibition

Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Sami Al Ibrahim opened yesterday an exhibition of public services. Ibrahim said that the aim of the exhibition is to educate the public on the various services provided by the government.

The exhibition which has been organised by various ministries and government departments was attended by officials from government and private establishments.

Students may have to pay for textbooks

New system under study

CONCERNED officials at the Ministry of Education are now studying a new system for the distribution of school books which is being implemented in most around the world.

Interviewed by a local daily, the Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs at the Ministry of Education, Abdul Aziz Al Jarallah pointed out that the new system will save the ministry money, manpower and storage space. He added that the ministry will provide books of the primary stage through contracts with local publishing houses and printing presses as of the academic year 90/91. He pointed out that books will be provided at government prices and will be available at bookstores, markets and co-operatives societies.

He said that students will be able to obtain books from these locations at symbolic prices. He pointed out that this step will accomplish positive results with

regards to saving storage space at the ministry and transporting books to school. Students will be more careful when handling their text books since they have to pay for them.

Jarallah stated that this experiment will not be implemented by the ministry until comprehensive studies have been undertaken.

Meanwhile the assistant undersecretary for private education at the Ministry of Education Dr Yaqoob Al Sharrar has said that the ministry controls all academic, financial and administrative functions of foreign and Arabic schools in the country.

A total of 140,000 students, boys and girls, are currently registered in Arab and foreign private schools, 70 per cent of whom are distributed among 130 Arabic schools, the official said.

He added that special teams of the ministry's officials paid regular visits to these schools to

supervise their different areas of activities, covering budgetary allocations, educational process, distribution of prescribed books, and other school activities.

Only Arab school receive financial support from the government, although there were a number of which did not receive any financial support but taught the ministry curricula, and that the endorsement of financial support depended on preset conditions.

Sharrar added that these conditions stipulated that the percentage of students at the school belonging to one nationality should not exceed 50 per cent, neither should the percentage of teachers.

He said that the ministry provided these schools with principals and headmasters, paid their salaries and provided books at no cost. This support comes within the framework of ministry's efforts to support Arabic cultural institutions.

Research to upgrade chicken production

THE deputy Director-General for Biological and Environmental Science Research at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) Nizar Mulla Hussein has said that the institute is currently involved in a research study aimed at finding solutions for major local consumption problems.

Speaking to a local daily, he said the research study is aimed at upgrading the quality and validity of poultry produced in Kuwait, particularly frozen products. This is intended to establish a regular scale for evaluating poultry quality starting with the slaughtering process and continuing packaging, marketing, and consumption.

He said that a series of studies had already been initiated seeking to optimise poultry production and covering analysis of available fodder, chemical content, nutritional value and related storing and thermal effects.

Conditions

The results had shown that broilers performed better when fed with fodder with 20 per cent protein content, and that under high temperature, the performance of egg-laying chickens was low.

Hussein added that the Food Technology Group at KISR had also carried out a number of studies seeking to raise the nutritional value of flour and bread in Kuwait, and that a special dough had been recommended containing vitamins B1, B2, Niacine and Iron, to be added to white flour used in making bread.

He also said that another study showed that the commercial egg-laying chickens could be used in the production of meat products after a series of processing stages aiming to raise the nutritional value of meat. Other studies centred on the use of the common type of local fish, for the production of sea food other than shrimps.

Analysis

Other studies included the use of seawater in pickling vegetables to economise the use of fresh water and salt needed throughout the processing stages.

KISR is currently involved in analysing the existing status of food industries in the country, with a view to identifying the existing problems and impediments to these industries, through field surveys of various stages, equipment, technology, raw material, marketing policies and other factors involved in food production.

He said that the Marine Culture and Fish Resources Department at the institute has marketed nearly 20 tons of fish produced through fish culture at the institute in experimental marketing quantities, which include seabass and brouli.

Experiments

The department is also performing experiments seeking to culture minute living organisms for use as food for fish, such as single cell green algae, sea yeast, and others, which had successfully been extracted from the Gulf water. Details of these experiments and related studies had been published in scientific periodicals.

Other research activities sponsored by the institute dealt with various techniques of producing organic fertilisers, fodder for animals from locally available raw material as well as producing good-quality compost.

Legal Clinic

ADVICE FROM OUR KUWAITI LAWYER KHALID TAHER

IF you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind. Send your questions to Arab Times, Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khalid Taher replies to readers queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O.

Box 2270, 13023 Safat Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495. If you have any doubts please call 4813566 Ext 285 between 12 noon and 6 pm.



I'VE been in Kuwait from August 1983. Four months ago my company made a new residence permit for me. Now, I've got a job with a ministry. My company says that I should resign and they'll give a release as my residence cannot be transferred before three years.

(1) Is this condition applicable to expatriate transferring the residence from private sector to the government?

(2) If I resign from my present job, can I come back on a visit visa?

(3) I have a No Objection Certificate from the concerned ministry. Can the Ministry of Social Affairs issue a new visa on the basis of this letter?

(4) Could you suggest an alternative to join the ministry?

Z. Rahman

IT'S not clear from your letter whether your company renewed your residence permit or you got a new job and the company made "a new visa".

If you have been with the same company since Aug 1983, it means you have completed more than three years of service according to Article 16, new social affairs rules, and have the right to transfer to a new employer. But such a transfer has to be done with the knowledge of the present employer and is subject to acceptance by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

(1) Article 16 states that anyone completing three years of service can transfer his residence from one employer to another. However, it does not mention whether it must be on the private sector.

(2) If you want to come on a visit visa, you must cancel the present residence. Any application is subject to approval by the Ministry of Social Affairs, and only they can say whether they will accept it or not. However, to my knowledge, in such cases, the ministry does not accept such applications.

(3) The ministry cannot issue a visa only on a No Objection Certificate; the ministry concerned must submit the application on your behalf.

(4) You can ask the ministry to issue a new visa; cancel your present residence and leave the country and re-enter Kuwait.

1) CAN the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour refuse to record the amended salary when both employer and employee agree on a new salary?

2) Does the social welfare officer have the legal authority to refuse the above mentioned request?

B. D. Jacob

1) THE Ministry of Social Affairs faced numerous problems regarding salary amendments in the past that they are now reluctant to make any alterations. Many people had amended the salary certificates only to bring their family. Several employers granted an employee's request and gave a higher salary certificate. But these employees claimed the higher pay as well, creating problems.

The ministry's reluctance doesn't mean that they are interfering in the relationship between an employee and an employer; they are still free to sign any contract with any salary they want. But the Ministry of Social Affairs, to my knowledge, considers the salary on the social affairs contract as part of a procedure to complete residence formalities.

2) Yes, he has legal authority, because he is carrying out orders.

I HAVE been staying in Kuwait for the last 13 years. I was on a dependent visa until January 1988 when I completed schooling and joined a private company. My residence was subsequently changed to a work permit. Now I want to change my job for better prospects. Can my residence be changed? Can ANYONE who has been staying continuously in Kuwait for more than 10 years can have his/her residence changed without any hindrance? Or does it mean that anyone who has been here for 10 years and has been working for at least three years can change his/her visa? Can you explain the term continuity? Does it mean that a person must stay in Kuwait without taking a break or vacation?

Ahmed

THE Ministry of Social Affairs will transfer the residence of any person who has worked for 10 years in Kuwait on visa No. 18. Dependents who have changed their visa from No. 22 to No. 18 would have to work for at least three years with one employer before seeking a transfer of residence/job.

The term defining stay status as "continuously for 10 years" means working with one or several sponsors with transfer of residence done inside Kuwait; i.e. without leaving and re-entering Kuwait. If you leave Kuwait re-enter on a new visa, it means that the duration of stay will be taken from the date of that (new) entry.

I'VE been working in a private company on No. 18 visa for the last seven years. Can I change my residence to the Ministry of Electricity and Water if I get a job there?

Sam

THERE is nothing in the law against the transfer from the private to public sector but you must get permission from MEW to make the necessary change. And such a transfer must be done with the knowledge of the present employer and is subject to acceptance by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

I'VE been living in Kuwait for 21 years. After taking up employment I obtained a visa No. 18. I have worked for one and half years for this sponsor. Can I transfer my residence?

A.Y.G.

YOU can't transfer your residence before completing three years service with your present employer.

SINCE I came to Kuwait in August 1983, I have been working as a driver for a Kuwaiti family. Now, the family wants to reduce my present salary, which is very low. My sponsor refuses to give me a release. If I convince him, is there any chance of changing my visa No. 20 to visa No. 18?

K.M. Zubaidinlah

YOU are not covered by the labour law. However, you are not allowed to change a visa from No. 20 to 18. But if you can find another employer you can transfer your residence to the same visa number. If you want to get No. 18, you have to get a new visa, leave the country and then re-enter. If you want to change your sponsor, your present employer should give the "tanzil" — release.

I JOINED a company on a special contract in 1968. In 1978, my employer died and his sons inherited the company and changed its name. (Details of employment submitted). Now if the company terminates my services, how will they calculate my indemnity? Will it be from 1968 up to the present, less what the company has paid for the three months notice?

T. Gomez

ARTICLE 59 stipulates that "A labour contract shall be terminated in the case of the firm's dissolution, liquidation, lockout, bankruptcy, merger with other firms, transfer by inheritance, legacy, donation, sale or any other legal acts; and the labourer's indemnities shall become a due debt which the successor is liable to settle. The labourers may continue to serve the successor with reservation of their right of indemnity for the previous years of service." According to this article, you have the right to get all your benefits. It means that even if the company ownership has changed, the employee can leave or hold the new employer, who will settle the dues.

However, if a person is terminated in accordance with Article 55.

(Article 55: "Employer has the right to terminate the labourer without notice and indemnity in the following cases (a) if he commits a fault, resulting in a loss to the employer; (b) repeatedly disobeys orders ... (c) absent from duty for more than seven consecutive days; (d) convicted of a crime affecting honour, honesty or morality (e) commits an act against public morality at the place of work; (f) commits a breach or fails to carry out any obligation imposed on him under the terms of the contract or this law; (h) if it proved employee has fraudulently obtained work; (i) if the labourer reveals any secrets relating to the concern he works for.") If any of the above are used as a reason for termination, an employee's right to claim indemnity is cancelled.

You're entitled to get the benefits, but if the company has not changed, according to the clauses mentioned in Article 59, it means you're contract is continuing and you are entitled to all the rights.

I'VE been in Kuwait for the last 12 years. Recently, an established firm with whom I worked for four years and nine months refused to give me my dues. I was once terminated and then re-employed after a gap of two months. My termination letter was taken back and the clerk who keeps records mentioned in my file that I took two months leave without pay.

After five years, my manager gave me a verbal notice and employed me at a different place with a better salary. After working outside for six months, I returned to my old company, which asked me to work on a reduced salary and I didn't take up the offer. Now, I changed my job and am on the sponsorship of another company. Now, can I get end of service benefits from the previous employer. I have a photocopy of the termination letter.

Peter

IF they terminated you, you can file a case against them, and ask for full benefits, from the first date of employment, and the court will decide whether the two months pay is owed to you or not. And you have full rights according to the law, provided you were not terminated according to Article 55.

IS there any clause in the labour law through which enables an employee who has completed 10 years service, gives three months notice and hands over the job to his replacement, to get full settlement?

A.C. Rajan

THERE is no clause in the law. If you resign, you'll get only half of the benefits; and there is no way to get full benefits after resigning.

I CAME to Kuwait on Jan 3 on visa No. 18. I've been working for the same employer. Now, a new company is willing to give me a visa. Can I enter Kuwait on a new visa? I've not completed two years service with my present employer and my resident permit is valid for two years.

SIP

IF you cancel the present visa, you can re-enter Kuwait on a new work permit.

I HAVE been residing here for 26 years and have been working in a private company for the last six years on a dependent visa No. 22. The company has offered to change it to a working visa No. 18, i.e. I'll have to leave the country and come back on a new visa.

Can I obtain a release letter from my employer if I wish to leave after a few months? If they wish to sack me before the three year period, am I eligible for my three years pay?

Z.S.

YOU must submit an application to the Ministry of Social Affairs, giving the name of the new sponsor, and ask for a release, and the ministry will decide whether such a release can be given or not. If not, you must get a new visa 18, cancel your present residence and re-enter Kuwait.

(Working on No. 22 visas is illegal)

I'M A domestic helper and have been working with a family for three years from 1986.

In April 1986, I signed a contract, given by my embassy. One of the conditions was that I would get full pay for every year of service: 15 days vacation leave; sick leave (15 days).

Am I allowed to ask my employer about the leave and ask him to pay me for leave, vacation and sick leave?

KCF

YOU are not covered by the Kuwaiti labour law.

You do not mention whether your employer signed the contract given by the embassy. Anyway, any contract between an employee and the employer must be followed and you must follow that.

I HAVE been residing in Kuwait since my birth. I am 20 years old. I changed my dependent visa to working visa No. 18 in 1988 and have been working since then with the same employer. Now I have been offered a better job. Is it possible for me to take up the new job? Can I transfer my residence without any difficulty?

Nida

YOU may have read my comments in last week's column. I've repeated this week for the benefit of those who missed it. You don't have the right to transfer the residence because the ministry is not considering the duration of residence in Kuwait; transfers are being accepted only if a person has worked on a No. 18 visa for 10 years.

WE'RE working in the private sector in Kuwait and would like to adopt a child. As I don't have sufficient salary to obtain a dependent visa, I'd like to adopt an infant here. Can you help us find out from where and how we can adopt a baby? A desperate couple.

THERE is no law for adoption in Kuwait because you can't give the child your name by adoption. Although you are allowed to take care of an orphan, Islam does not allow the child to take the father's name.

In Kuwait, you can take care of a child by sponsoring his education and other expenses.

It would be advisable to contact the Social Welfare Department at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and find out if you can sponsor an infant.

I CAME to Kuwait in February last year with a two year contract on a No. 18 visa. Before completing the contract, I want to resign as we don't get a weekly holiday and are not paid overtime. Moreover, I'm paid less than my colleagues doing the same job.

Can I resign before my two year contract expires, obtain a visa and re-enter Kuwait?

L. Christy

THERE is no way you can do that without completing your contract. You have to serve for at least three years with your present employer to seek a new job. However, you can cancel your present residence and re-enter Kuwait on a new visa.

I'VE been working as a clerk in a private firm since 1964. Now, I'd like to resign. According to the labour law, I'll be paid half of my indemnity with the total indemnity not exceeding 18 months. Will my indemnity be calculated on the basis of 18 months or on the basis of my total service with the company?

J.M.

YOU'RE entitled to get only half of the total settlement, which does not exceed 18 months salary.

FOR the last 25 years, I have been working in a private company on visa No. 18. I now intend to return to my country. Will I get the full indemnity after resigning?

M. Glyori

IF you resign, you're entitled to get only half the indemnity. The total indemnity is half month's pay for the first five years and one month's pay for the following years, with the total indemnity not exceeding 18 months salary.

I HAVE completed 12 years and two months. I am in the process of being transferred to our branch office in a neighbouring Gulf state. I would like to know if my annual bonus, which is about one month's wages, is included in our settlement. If yes, kindly explain the method of calculation.

M.D. Penha

THE bonus is included in the settlement in accordance with Article 28 of No. 38/1964 private sector labour law.

The bonus is calculated by 12 months and with a percentage of each month added to the salary.

I'VE been working in a private company for the last 25 years on a monthly salary basis. I plan to go back to my own country. What will my service benefits be, in case (1) terminated (2) resignation. Are there any other benefits for long service? Will my service be calculated on the basis of 26 days or 30 days?

L. Rodrigues

IF YOU are terminated, you are entitled to full indemnity, i.e. half month's wages for the first five years and one month's wages for the following years; the indemnity does not exceed 18 months wages. If you resign, you'll get half of the total benefits.

2. There are no other benefits; however if the employer wants to reward someone, it is up to him.

3. It will be calculated on the basis of 26 days, excluding Fridays.

State prize for computer programmer

A BAHRAIN national Ali Sharif obtained the Prize of the State of Bahrain for his significant achievements in the field of computers.

The distinction was conferred on Sharif for inventing the best programme relating to Arabising the usage of computers in the Arab world.

The Arabised programme (Nafiza) for which has been awarded the prize is internationally registered in his name.

Sharif was working as an employee in the auditing department of Gulf Air before being sent to study computer sciences in Saudi Arabia. This was way back in 1976.

He underwent a nine month intensive computer training course at King Fahd University. Subsequently, Gulf Air also sent him to the UK to familiarise himself with more advanced computer technologies.

During his work there, he Arabised a number of computers including a personal computer and an IBM computer.

Consumers complain of sudden onion price hike

CONSUMERS in Kuwait are vigorously complaining of the sudden hike in onion prices at the Vegetables and Fruits Market. Onion prices started to increase since the beginning of last month while onion salesmen at the Shuwaikh Vegetables Market have no idea of the causes. They say that the travelling season only affects sales and not prices.

Abdul Khaleq Gholam Husain, the owner of an onion stall at the vegetables market said that prices fluctuate daily, and that onion prices like other commodities is affected by supply and demand.

Onion is in short supply presently and prices range up to KD2 per bag, he said.

Abdul Khaleq only sells Turkish onion, which is usually packed in 5 kilogrammes sacks. He added that the price of one sack was KD1 a month ago, now the price has doubled to KD2.

He laughed when asked about the causes of the sudden hike in onion prices and said that he is only an employee and follows orders of the company which indicates prices. He pointed out that the same company supplies the whole market with onion and therefore, prices are identical everywhere.

He added that onion sales have dropped dramatically since prices went up, only those customers who are forced to buy onion in bulk come to him, others prefer to buy by the kilo. He pointed out that he only sells one fourth the quantity he sold before the price hike, possibly due to the holiday season, he said.

Another onion salesman, Jaber Hantoosh said that dust has prevented onion shipments from reaching Kuwait causing a hike in prices. He sells Indian onions which he sold at KD1.500 per 5 kilogrammes sack, now the prices is up to KD2.250. Hantoosh also sells locally grown onions at KD1.000 for a three kilogramme sack. He stated that the price of the Kuwaiti onion is fixed since it is locally grown, but the quantities available at the vegetable market has dropped because of dust storms witnessed by the country.

Leftover food scheme a success

THE vice-chairman for the committee assigned to receive food and banquet leftovers Abdul Wahab Al Muzaini has said that the idea behind the establishment of the committee is to collect untouched leftovers at banquets and receptions for distribution among the needy.

He said that the committee was formed with the consent of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and that it started work in April last year, in time to maximise its performance during the month of Ramadan, when the needy depend on food donated by other people and companies.

Donated food would be circulated amongst needy families with utter secrecy, and hotels are also co-operative in this regard and fresh food was provided through hotel vehicles to the committee headquarters

for distribution to approximately 300 families including widows, divorcees and disabled.

The committee co-ordinated its activities with Zakat House, the Society for the Revival of Islamic Heritage and charity-givers from whom the committee came to learn the addresses of needy families.

He said that the committee had received a bus of the 1989 model from a well-to-do donor for facilitating the easy supply of food and donated material to the needy.

Muzaini said that the committee would receive butchered meat donated on the occasion of Eid Al Adha on a 24-hour basis. Donors could contact the committee headquarters on Tel nos. 2562450-2528201.

WANTED

An experienced salesman for a shop dealing in household items. Those having experience in household items and transferable residence contact Tel. No. 2661120 (5-8 pm)

Kuwait interested in Arab power hook-up

Call to tap alternative energy

CAIRO, July 2, (KUNA): Kuwait Electricity and Water Minister Hmoud Al Rqobah has said Kuwait is interested in the power link-up between Arab countries as a means of Arab integration.

Rqobah said in an interview broadcast on the Egyptian television that the Arab power tie-up project is extremely vital and important as it would lead to

energy conservation. He said the Arab hook-up scheme represents a safeguard against local power outages.

The Kuwaiti official pointed out that Scandinavian countries are linked up electrically, so are West European countries with East Europe, the Soviet Union and Finland.

The minister noted that during his recent visit to Cairo, he had

discussed an electric linkage between the two Arab countries, which can be mutually advantageous in view of the fact that Egyptian electricity consumption peaks in winter against summer in Kuwait.

Alternates

In the interview, the Kuwaiti official suggested that Arab countries should tap alternative

energy resources, pointing out that solar energy is highly economical and is available throughout much of the Arab world throughout the year.

Despite sitting on sizeable reserves of crude oil and natural gas, Kuwait has been using alternative energy resources for operational purposes, Rqobah went on.

Turning to nuclear energy, the

minister expressed belief that any Arab countries that decided to use this kind of energy would be risking the possibility of nuclear accidents.

Rqobah said fresh water production from desalination plants has reached 260 million gallons daily compared with daily consumption levels of 140 million gallons, leaving a surplus of 120 million gallons.

Expats might own property

(Continued from Page 1)

cent of crude oil reserves of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

The Kuwaiti energy expert said the GCC countries own the world's largest proportion of crude oil and natural gas reserves, adding that the council would be instrumental in international oil supplies for another 118 years calculated at current production rates.

With reserves of 373 billion barrels of crude, the GCC states had a 41 per cent share of estimated international reserves of 907 billion barrels, Ma'rafi added.

Rise

Non-oil revenues in the state budget for fiscal 1989/90 have risen by KD23 million to KD288.531 million against the previous fiscal year with two state institutions accounting for the bulk of the increase, according to a senior Finance Ministry official.

The Ports Public Authority and the Ministry of Electricity and Water had the lion's share in the non-oil revenue increase in the new budget, said the public budget affairs assistant undersecretary at the Finance Ministry, Abdul Aziz Solaiman Al Roumi.

He attributed the rise in non-oil revenues in fiscal 1989/90 to a growing understanding by public institutions to the government's rationalisation policy and instructions for developing revenues through levying of symbolic fees on services provided by the state, without burdening the citizens.

Al Roumi said there are plans for presenting the state budget every two years instead of annually in order to save time and efforts.

Haj services

KUWAIT'S Medical team began in earnest its medical services from the onset of their arrival at Al Madina Al Munawwarra, according to a Kuwaiti official.

The team comprises a full team of medical experts and is backed up with professional supportive staff. They have mobilised all medical requirements and are well prepared to provide every form of medical assistance to pilgrims in the Holy Lands, secretary-general of the Kuwaiti medical team for pilgrimage and assistant Undersecretary of Public Health, Ibrahim Al Muhaf said.

The official also praised the co-operative spirit demonstrated between the medical team and the delegation representing the Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs.

The modalities of providing services to pilgrims of Kuwaiti caravans as formulated by the Ministry of Awaqaf have ensured the highest level of such services, the official said.

109 scholarships

KUWAIT, July 2, (KUNA): Director of students educational missions at the Ministry of Higher Education Abdullah Al Sanea said 109 male and female students from Kuwait will be sent on scholarships to obtain university degrees from various universities around the world.

In a statement to KUNA, Sanea said the students will specialise in medicine, pharmacology, dentistry, agriculture, computer science, engineering and other fields in the US, UK, West Germany, Egypt, Canada and France.

School air-conditioning

AIR-CONDITIONING of schools is going according to plans, Education Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Planning, Dr Rasheed Al Hamad said today.

Five companies have already begun working and so far have completed the electrical works necessary for the air-conditioning of government schools. Hamad said that air-conditioning units have now been installed in 26 kindergartens and primary schools in the five educational areas. But he said that there are not enough assurances that the work will be completed before the beginning of the next academic year in September.

Health service faces criticism

Undersecretary refutes allegations

HEALTH services in Kuwait are being threatened by rumours of medical errors committed at hospitals and health centres during the past few months.

Officials at the Ministry of Public Health have admitted that some medical errors did occur which resulted in the death of patients. However, they stressed that all such incidents, without exception are being carefully investigated and those proved guilty will be punished.

Conversely, residents stated that imposing punishments will not suffice to redress the situation. They said that concentrated and high level decisions should be immediately implemented to preserve the solid reputation accredited to the health service in Kuwait.

Residents indicated that such medical errors will weaken the trust existing between patients and doctors. They added that a comprehensive review of existing medical practices and work levels within health utilities should be undertaken.

A local daily who interviewed some of the residents on health services reported the above overview and cited excerpts from some of those interviewed.

Errors: One of the residents said that she had admitted her daughter to the Farwaniya Hospital eyes section for treatment of a swelling in her left eye. Doctors instead of operating on the left eye operated on the right eye, she said.

Another resident previously admitted for hospitalisation said that the food provided to patients is sometimes unclean. The reason she said: "Cooks are busy in the kitchen - watching television." He added that most residents living in remote areas cannot speak English and called on officials to replace expatriates with Arab staff.

A number of female patients said that they cannot unveil themselves in the presence of male doctors and called upon officials to provide clinics and health centres with female doctors.

Another section of patients demanded continuous working hours at clinics. They queried: Does sickness stop during late night hours?

A lady said that her aunt was admitted to the Al Razi Hospital for broken bones in her leg. The patient stayed in the hospital for eleven months after which period she was discharged with her legs and hand paralysed.

Another patient said that the Jahra clinic is not open during weekends and that the clinic suffers overcrowding during working hours.

A resident said that he took his 10-month son to the doctor who prescribed the wrong medicine. He had to rush his son to the emergency section immediately as there was a change in the colour of his skin. His son was diagnosed as being allergic to penicillin which the previous doctor had administered.

In an effort to obtain clarification from health officials, the daily broached the complaints to officials to obtain their views.

In a rebuttal to these claims, Dr. Naeel Al Naeel, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Public Health described these accusations as pure fabrications. He said that he was astonished by the fact that laymen could consider themselves qualified to judge and evaluate the expertise and professional judgement of doctors.

The official was also highly critical of some of the local journalists that highlight people's complaints and downplay answers and reactions of officials. Naeel said: "Such biased

and unsubstantiated reports will harm health services and tend to reduce the confidence of patients in their doctors." He went on to say that this lack of patients' confidence will be a serious drawback to the doctors' expertise in improving the health status of patients. Confidence in a doctor's professional capabilities is considered psychologically essential towards medical treatment, Naeel further added.

Naeel stated that, to disqualify journalists who have been proved to have sent in false reports does not fall within the purview of the Ministry of Public Health.

The ministry usually investigates newspaper stories in this regard and has been on several occasions constrained to inform the local news media of "misguided reporting," the official said and added: "Most newspaper reports on medical issues of malpractice lack scientific explanations."

Confidence

He went on to say that this type of irresponsible reporting without ascertaining facts by some journalists shows a lack of professional dedication towards their profession and more importantly towards medical services in Kuwait.

"Errors are bound to happen, we are only human," Naeel said and added that errors may occur due to a plethora of reasons such as misunderstandings between patients' explanations to doctors, confusing doctors advice or other extenuating circumstances.

Regarding the establishment of emergency stations at clinics, the official said that it is impossible. It does not exist in any part of the world, he said. But he said that the ministry will establish a dental centre at every area in Kuwait.

Cabinet endorses investment draft law

THE Council of Ministers during its weekly session today discussed several draft laws referred by the Legislative Committee, including a draft amendment of the Commerce Law to determine the feasibility of permitting non-Kuwaitis to invest in local companies.

Another draft law of Civil and Commercial Procedure was also considered by the session with the aim of simplifying legal measures and curtailing the period of litigation before courts.

The cabinet endorsed the two draft laws and referred them on an urgent basis to the Amiri Diwan.

The Council of Ministers reviewed a memorandum of the Municipality Affairs Committee and decided to ratify its resolutions.

The cabinet also discussed a message recently received by HH the Amir from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf concerning his country's dispute with Mauritania.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed told reporters, following the cabinet's regular weekly session under HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, that Kuwait is keen on continuing its fraternal ties and close relations with sisterly Sudan.

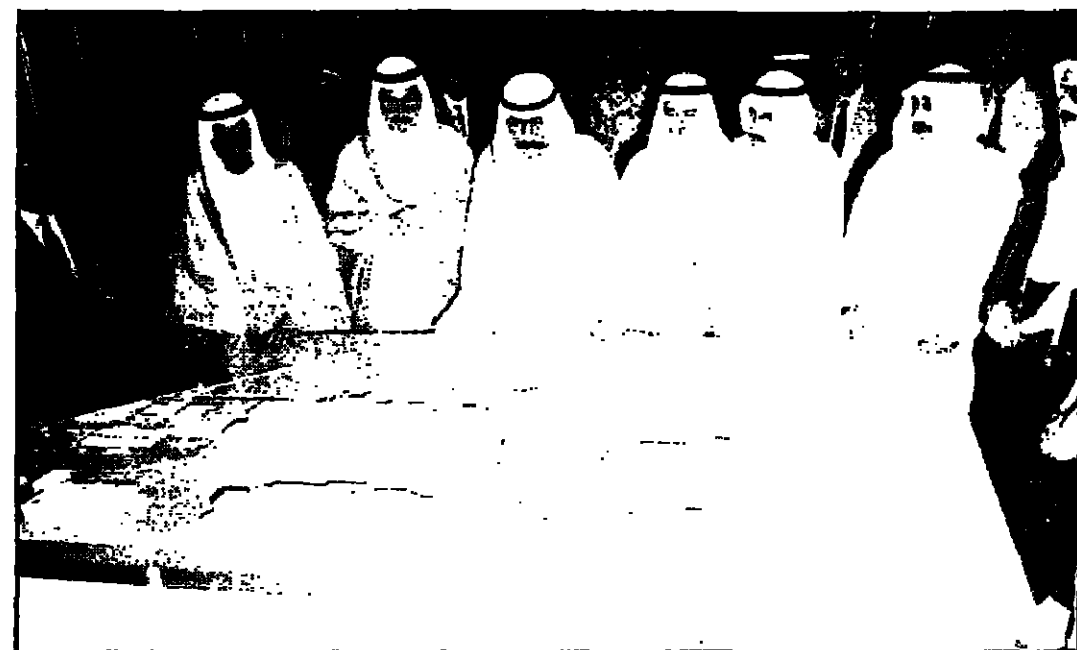
Rashed noted that the cabinet made the statement after discussing political affairs and reviewing reports on latest developments on the Arab and the international levels.

Minister of Electricity and Water Homoud Al Rqobah briefed the cabinet on results of the 5th meeting of electricity ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), which was held in Riyadh recently.

Commerce delegation visits Doha based GOIC

A DELEGATION from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry visited the premises of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultations (GOIC) based in Doha last week. The delegation was headed by director of computer centre of the ministry Adel Rumaih who was accompanied by head of computer project Tawfeeq Al Zayed and controller of industrial licences Mohammed Al Rikhayes as well as Yousef Al Kandiri from Industrial Consultations and Development Office.

Rikhayes pointed out that the aim of the visit is to study the information system at GOIC and computer systems used in recording information related to social and economic affairs. He added that the delegation discussed with officials of the organisation the nature of international classification for industrial products in order to unify industrial classifications at the GCC states through the GOIC.



Premier visits Diwan site

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday paid an inspection visit to the site of the project of the new buildings of the Amiri Diwan, the Diwan of the Crown Prince and Premier, the meetings hall and the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

During the visit, Sheikh Saad was briefed on the progress of work and the implementation stages of

the project which will take three years to be finalised. Sheikh Saad was received at the site by the Minister of Public Works, undersecretary, a number of ministry officials and consultative engineering offices.

HH was accompanied by the minister of state for cabinet affairs, minister of finance and minister of state for municipal affairs.

Shamlan chairs council meeting

Administrative structure at KU still unclear

THE new administrative structure at Kuwait University will not be clear before late October or the beginning of November, according to a senior university official.

Speaking to newsmen after the University Council held its first meeting following the wide scale resignations of a number of college deans, Dr Rasha Al Sabah said that a number of deans who tendered their resignations last week did not attend the meeting and deputised others to represent them.

However, she said that Dr Hassan Al Ulwi withdrew his resignation and attended the meeting. Also attending the meeting was the newly appointed University Rector, Dr Shuaib Abdulla. The meeting was chaired by Dr Ali A. Al Shamlan, Minister for Higher Education.

The official went on to say that the non-attendance of some deans cannot be construed as them having resigned. She said: "We do not really, at this point in time, know who has resigned and who has not." But, she confirmed that the Assistant Rectors Dr Ahmad Bishara and Dr Kazem Behbehani have submitted their resignations.

She added that a number of professors have been assigned to carry out the duties of the deans who resigned and who insisted on their resignations being accepted. But, she said, that these are temporary measures as deans have to be appointed according to well defined procedures normally followed by the university.

Meanwhile, it has been learnt that a number of attempts have been made to have these resignations withdrawn, but these attempts in the majority of the

cases have proved futile.

Consequently, it is expected that the Minister of Higher Education, Shamlan will issue decisions accepting the resignations of a number of deans in the next few days.

Reliable sources said that till now, six deans have submitted their resignations. They are the dean of the College of Commerce, Arts, Science, Engineering, Medicine and Registration and Admissions. The dean of the Engineering College withdrew his resignation.

Rasha Al Sabah also said that the University Council in its meeting also discussed the problem of admissions. Special concern is being paid to the supremacy of girls over boys. This year, 80 per cent of Kuwaiti students who applied for admission were girls.

She said that the new university rector is paying great attention to this aspect and will form a committee to discuss the problem.

Among the proposals to reduce the number of girls at the university is to make admission requirements stringent for girls - including a higher passing rate. But, these intended actions will not be taken during the current academic year as it is too late, she said.

The council also decided to treat the GCC students in Kuwait on par with Kuwaiti students with respect to admissions and other privileges. The council also decided to abolish the credit hours system at the Law College and adopt the two term system from the beginning of the next academic year, 1990/91.

Land scarcity dampens housing authority plans

SCARCITY of lands for housing projects is the major constraint towards approving the fourth Five-Year Plan of the National Housing Authority (NHA), according to a senior official.

The plan which is supposed to begin in 1990 is intended to reduce the waiting period of citizens to obtain government houses. This will involve making available 25,000 housing units in the coming Five-Year Plan, the director-general of the NHA, Dr Ibrahim Al Shaheen said.

Unfortunately, the NHA will not be in a position to build more than 12,000 housing units, including flats, land allotments and the present houses. The state has offered to provide 200 square metres as area of each unit, the official said.

NHA is now distributing completed houses in a phased programme so as to not to increase the costs of building materials and labour by executing the projects in one period.

Shaheen attributed the long wait for houses to the preference of citizens for obtaining accommodation in areas close to Kuwait City. Jahra is only 15 minutes from Kuwait City by car if drivers use the motorways, but citizens still consider it to be a remote area.

Numbers

Citizens who applied for houses in Jahra received their houses - some of them submitted their applications in 1986. Shaheen said that NHA received about 1,000 land allotments in Khairan and Wafra areas and work has begun. Studies are being undertaken for the Subbiya area to determine the exact number of citizens who will occupy these houses in the new city prior to starting work there, the official said. This is so as not to build houses which remain empty as is the case of houses in Jahra which have been maintained by NHA for a long time.

He pointed out that the Higher Housing Council has approved a proposal to invite companies to build and carry out housing projects according to certain specifications of NHA. He added that the proposal was referred to the Council of Ministers which approved it and referred it to the relevant committee.

"As a government, we do not want to intervene in the work of these private companies within the site, but we are obliged to protect the rights of citizens who will live there," Shaheen said.

Accordingly, he added the NHA has laid down criteria in the form of a contract to be signed by the authority and the private companies who will undertake the building of these houses.

NHA has reserved 30 land allotments in the Fintas area which will be handed to private companies to build houses. Each company will build 5 or 6 houses on an experimental basis. The houses will be built in different styles to allow citizens to choose, Shaheen said.

Treated Lebanese leave Kuwait

humanitarian step.

They pointed out that the care and attention accorded them during their hospital stay was indicative of Kuwait's humanitarian nature.

Kuwait had sent two airplanes to Damascus and Larnaca to fly the wounded from both sectors of Beirut on directives from HH the Amir and at the instructions of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Abdullah.

Today's departees were seen off at the airport by Assistant Health Undersecretary for Technical Affairs, Dr Tariq Al Abduljader, the Lebanese Ambassador to Kuwait, Adnan Badra and senior officials of the Health Ministry.

Dr Abduljader pointed out that 45 other war-injured Lebanese citizens are still in hospital receiving medical care.

For his part the Lebanese ambassador thanked the Kuwaiti humanitarian initiative in lessening the Lebanese people's suffering.

Some of the wounded also thanked the Amir, government and people of Kuwait for the

Police beat

Ex-wife beaten

AN official at a co-operative society beat his ex-wife who works as a secretary in the same co-operative, according to a local daily.

According to reports, the couple were secretly married last year after winning elections of the co-operative society, but were divorced at the time of the incident.

Two days ago, it is alleged the defendant assaulted his ex-wife after closing the door of her office at the co-operative.

The victim filed a case at the police centre, but later withdrew her complaints.

The board of the co-operative, however, suspended the official till completion of investigations.

Jewel thieves

THE Criminal Court sentenced two men to three years imprisonment each with hard labour for stealing jewels from a house.

The house owner complained to the police that his jewels valued at thousands of dinars were stolen from his home while he was away.

Investigations led to the arrest of the two accused and the jewels along with a gun which belonged to the house owner were recovered from the accused.

As the gun was unlicensed, the prosecution also charged the owner with possession of an unlicensed weapon.

In his defence, the owner said that the gun was a gift from his friend who had since expired. However, he said that he had already applied for a licence.

Based on this evidence, the court refrained from issuing any sentence, provided the owner pledged to undertake a good conduct for six months. However, the court ordered the confiscation of the weapon.

Accidents

ONE man was killed and 19 injured in 11 road accidents reported in different governorates during the last 24 hours: 2 occurred in the Capital, 2 in Hawalli, 4 in Ahmadi and 3 in Jahra.

ABANDONED

Mr. Mounir Hamed, holder of Egyptian Passport No. 0831757, is under our sponsorship and has abandoned his services with our hotel.

Any persons employing him should do so at his own risk and liability.

General Manager

Kuwait Continental Hotel



Farewell

Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majeed Al Shaheen hosted a farewell reception for outgoing Swedish Ambassador Ulf Norstrom. A number of diplomats and senior ministry officials attended the reception.

Sewage system conforms to international standards

MPW fighting odour

By Nash'at Al Agha

THE director of the Public Networks Department at the Ministry of Public Works Adel Issa Bo Hamad has said that the drainage of sewage in Kuwait conforms to standard international health and environmental specifications.

He told Seyassah/Arab Times that the first drainage project in Kuwait was operated in 1971, and that the then network connected Sha'ab, Daiya, Dasmah, Qadisiya, Keifan, Shamiya, Shuwaikh and Faiha.

He said at that time there were six main pumping stations and 13 sub-stations, while the sewage lines extended to 50 kilometres, and the gravity lines to 500 kilometres.

Expansion

In view of the continuous urban development process and the steady population growth and related commercial and industrial activities, the drainage network had to be expanded to meet the increasing public requirements, which resulted in the provision of 18 main pumping stations, 60 sub-stations, while the sewer lines were extended to 400

kilometres and the gravity lines to 3,300, Hamad said.

He added that this was accompanied with the provision of high-tech equipment to ensure continuity of operation, and regular maintenance services with related spare parts.

Hamad said the main problems encountered by the department were caused by the misuse of drain sewers by some people who would pour oil, building material, fats and other substances into the sink or manholes, which often led to clogging and ultimately flooding of sewage leaving foul odours and causing environmental pollution.

He said that the department had therefore increased the number of its staff who were assigned to issue tickets to abusers of public utilities, and extended the working hours from six in the morning to 10 pm.

The number of tickets issued last year was 82, while the notices totalled 868, and that the department staff were authorised to issue tickets to all those who misuse public network, whether they be companies or individuals, the official said.

He added that the ministry paid considerable attention to fighting bad odours emitted by the sanitary networks, and that 143 different odour-controlling units had been mounted in 73 locations, which contained carbon filters and oxidation tower systems. Studies are ongoing to use chemical additives in the gravity lines to control the emittance of obnoxious odours.

The high temperature, type of sewage water and abundance of sand in the water as well as public misuse of the sanitary network, are all factors that cause this problem he said.

He added that treated sewage water is considered the best type of irrigation water, due to the minimum salinity percentage, high organic and non-organic material components which is considered as high fertilising value.

This type of water is therefore being used to irrigate areas planted with fodder and other types of animal food, and also to irrigate landscaped areas, roads and public locations, in co-operation with the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, the official explained.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE folly of one man is the fortune of another — Francis Bacon, English writer-philosopher (1561-1626).

Ethnic peace appeal

All talks, no meat

KREMLIN chief Mikhail Gorbachev has appealed in a television address for an end to ethnic tensions which have gripped the Soviet Union for months, but he offered little new in solutions.

Gorbachev warned that a wave of ethnic violence and nationalism in different parts of the country could lead to disaster and dissolution of the Soviet Union.

"We are talking about isolated inter-ethnic clashes. But if we don't realise the entire enormous danger of such phenomena and if they spread, we may be in for worse times," he said in his Saturday evening speech.

"Setting one nation against the other... could lead to disaster for all of us."

Foreign analysts and representatives of Soviet minorities commented that he offered no way out other than the conventional Soviet wisdom that ethnic peace lay in a "resolute renewal" of the ties that bind over 100 nationalities in the country.

"He gave no concrete solutions," said Angonita Ruptshite, who works for the mass political movement Sapudis in the Baltic Republic of Lithuania.

"He did not address the roots of the trouble between nationalities. In Uzbekistan, they are economic. In other republics, such as the Baltics, there are historical reasons," she said by telephone from Vilnius, capital of Lithuania.

Analysts said the Soviet leader's message, delivered by television and radio, may have more than anything reflected increased alarm in the Kremlin over recent racial strife and calls in some republics for independence.

Gorbachev, who rarely broadcasts directly to the country, was unusually grim throughout his 20-minute address.

"He looked really worried, but all he could say was, please stop all this trouble," one Western diplomat said.

The speech followed months of ethnic tension and sporadic violence in the Caucasus and Central Asia which have killed at least 200 people. Around half of them in clashes last month between Uzbeks and Meskhetian Turks.

Gorbachev said the violence threatened his "perestroika" reform programme "as well as the destiny and unity of our state" and even the reputation of the Soviet Union abroad.

"What kind of example shall we set for others while calling on the whole of mankind to build a non-violent world?" he said.

But he also appeared to be sending a warning to the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, where there has been no violence, but frequent appeals for more independence from Moscow.

The three republics were annexed to the Soviet Union in 1940 following a secret agreement dividing up Central Europe with Nazi Germany a year earlier.

"One should recognise that calls for economic autarchy and cultural isolation are profoundly alien to the basic interests of any people and of our entire society," Gorbachev said.

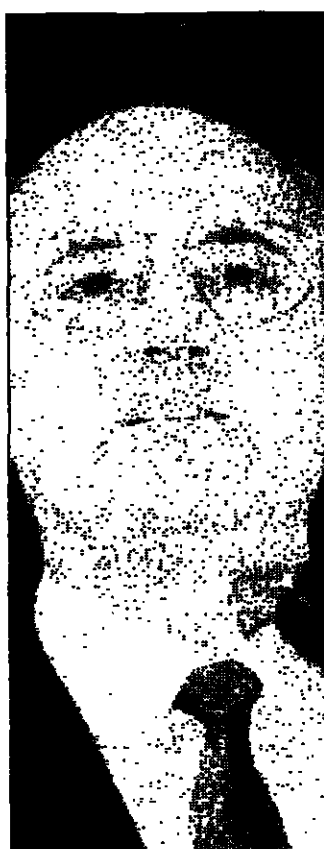
"I am confident that one should look for an answer to all issues that are uppermost in our minds not in breaking unity but in a resolute renewal of the federation," he said. "The peoples of the Soviet Union have a common destiny."

He repeated a pledge to restructure the relations between the Kremlin and the 15 republics, but gave no details. Gorbachev has promised such a restructuring for some time as part of an ongoing reform of the Soviet system of government.

"Life has now brought us to the conclusion that it is essential to effect profound transformations in the Soviet federation," Gorbachev said. "This work has begun and is proceeding intensively."

He indicated the issue would be addressed at the Communist Party plenum on nationalities scheduled for the end of this month.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said last week that the plenum would not be aimed at solving the myriad of individual issues which have sprung up recently but would instead seek to develop a broad political strategy.



Gorbachev, call

Outlook not too bad for ties

US-Iran contacts expected after Khomeini's death

BITTER enmity persists between Iran and the United States a year after a US warship shot down an Iranian airliner over the Gulf but signals from Tehran suggest relations may ease.

On July 3, 1988, 290 people were killed when the USS Vincennes shot down the civilian plane by mistake while patrolling international Gulf waters during the Iran-Iraq war.

The incident symbolised nearly a decade of mutual enmity between Iran and the US which exploded in November, 1979, when Islamic revolutionaries who deposed the Shah took US diplomats hostage in Tehran.

Iran will mark the airline tragedy by dropping flowers over the site in the waters of the Gulf between the southern city of Bandar Abbas and Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates.

But no major anti-American demonstrations appear to be planned, Iranian sources in the Gulf said.

In Tehran however the hardline Jomhuri Eslami newspaper said Iranians would never forgive the US for the shooting down of the Airbus.

"Such a crime cannot be left forgotten and for this precise reason the Iranian nation sees America as its number one enemy," the paper said in an editorial

on Sunday.

But despite the rhetoric, Iran's new leaders may reopen contacts with the West and Washington, quicker than expected following the death last month of supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini, Western and Iranian analysts say.

Western diplomatic analysts said there are no direct contacts between Tehran and Washington but Iranian sources said Pakistan has been playing the role of go-between.

Political analysts look to the widely-expected election to president this month of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who has proven a consummate artist in manoeuvring himself and the country through the political upheavals of the last year.

Another key sign that change is in the air are strong rumours from Iranian sources that Mohammad Javad Larijani may return from disgrace as the new foreign minister.

Larijani, who was seen as a supporter of better ties with the West, resigned as deputy foreign minister in April at the height of the Islamic resurgence, when Khomeini sacked his own designated spiritual successor Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri.

The analysts expect the new leadership to gradually cool the anti-Western sentiment sparked

by Khomeini in defence of Islamic principles, marked by his call last March for the killing of British author Salman Rushdie for blasphemy against Islam.

"I think after the elections there will be a lot of changes and improvement with the West. It may take six months, it may take a year," said one Iranian analyst close to Majlis (parliamentary) members in Tehran.

"The West still has the technology and the money that Iran cannot find anywhere else," said one Western diplomat, referring to Iran's pressing need to solve growing economic problems.

US-Iran relations have at times seemed irreparable.

The killing of US Marine in Lebanon and the holding of US hostages there by Iranian-backed guerrillas were only two of the major incidents which prompted US citizens to target Iran as their most hated nation in a 1988 US poll.

The revelation that Washington secretly sold Iran weapons in a bid to secure the release of the Lebanon hostages had serious political repercussions in both capitals, and still hangs over US President George Bush, who was vice-president at the time.

Zulu chief speaks

Barbed message

ZULU leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi wept before thousands of his supporters as he told a packed stadium full of his supporters had been hacked to death on their way to hear him speak.

The chief of South Africa's most famous black tribe told the rally his organisation was extending a hand of brotherhood, unity and peace to his rivals in a bloody feud which has raged for five years in Natal province.

Yet many of the thousands listening to his message of peace were armed with clubs, shields and spears.

The 60-year-old Buthelezi heads the government of KwaZulu, one of 10 black homelands created under Pretoria's policy of segregating the races.

He is also leader of Inkatha, a conservative anti-apartheid Zulu movement which is involved in a feud with the radical United Democratic Front (UDF), a fight which has claimed more than 2,000 lives since it erupted in 1984.

Advocating black unity and peaceful change, Buthelezi presents himself as a peacebroker and potential ruler of post-apartheid South Africa, a moderate alternative to the black radicals represented by the UDF.

But millions of blacks see him as a divisive figure because Inkatha has been implicated in the firebombings, beatings and assassinations which have become an everyday occurrence in Natal.

For the first time since the fighting started, the two sides sat down recently to negotiate an end to the feud.

Buthelezi, speaking in the imposing government buildings he has built at Ulundi, rejected opposition assertions that his calls for peace were merely a political ploy.

"It is wrong to suggest that I am involved in some kind of a seedy programme, or wheedling my way into public favour among radicalised black South Africans," Buthelezi told Reuters in an interview.

Inkatha and the UDF are both avowed crusaders against white domination, but differ on strategy.

The UDF, supported by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's biggest union grouping, is sympathetic to the banned African National Congress (ANC), the exiled rebel movement fighting to end white rule.

Inkatha prefers to fight apartheid from within the structures created by Pretoria.

Rivalry between the two groups broke into the open in 1984 and Natal's sprawling township have since taken sides, leaving no room for neutrals.

Though Buthelezi blames the violence on his foes, it seems clear that the feud will deny him the right to represent broad black political opinion. Buthelezi too powerful to be ignored.

"It could be a dangerous miscalculation to leave him out in any future negotiation," said anti-apartheid campaigner Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who opposes Buthelezi's political stance.

Buthelezi's split with the ANC also clouds his political future.

The ANC condemns him for fighting apartheid from within. The millions of blacks who support the ANC are therefore sceptical of Buthelezi's claims on black leadership.

Though he feuds with exiled leaders, Buthelezi is said to be liked by jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela, who often writes to him from the prison bungalow outside Cape Town where he is serving life imprisonment for plotting to overthrow white rule.

"Mandela is the real president of the ANC. If I were not committed to black unity, why would I sing praises of him and read his letters at rallies," Buthelezi said.



Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief of the Zulu tribe of South Africa and leader at the conservative Inkatha political movement is involved in a bitter feud in Natal Province with the leftist United Democratic Front. (Reuters wirephoto)

Quote me

Everyone must obey the laws of the country he lives in — Mikhail Gorbachev, Soviet President addressing his countrymen.

You American? I want to go America. I no go England. — A Vietnamese refugee in Hong Kong's Soko island telling a British reporter.

The US feels deeply hostile towards Iran and wants to take revenge on the Iranian nation... for their desire to live independently and freely. — The Jomhuri Eslami, a hardline Tehran newspaper on the first anniversary of shooting down of an Iranian Airbus by the US in which 29 people were killed.

"I'm not worried about dropping my pants just yet." — John McEnroe on his way to drop his pants if Michael Chang reaches the Wimbledon final.

"I don't know where anybody is in the draw. I know Hana Mandlikova is next. I don't want to know anything else

and if you tell me I will kill you." — Martina Navratilova, on being questioned about a possible Wimbledon final clash with World No. 1 Steffi Graf.

"The situation in China was complicated and the country lacked experience." — "There are errors in our work and things that anger the public, such as unequal economic growth and income distribution, slackness in the party, producing corruption." — Wan Li, chairman of the National People's Congress told a delegation from Guyana.

I do — Hugh Hefner as he ended three decades of bachelorhood taking a 26-year-old Playmate of the Year as his bride.

Having served for ten years in the US Navy, I state with full responsibility that the US government will never do anything for the establishment of peace from pure and honest motives until it is quite sure of its military superiority — Glenn Michael Souther in his suicide note to the KGB.

Turks flee Leaving home to find another

TENS of thousands of Bulgaria's ethnic Turks, embittered after years of what they see as cultural and religious oppression, are leaving the country that has been their home for generations.

The communist authorities, who deny there is a Turkish minority in Bulgaria, claim they are "Bulgarian Muslims" making use of recently liberalised travel laws to leave under the influence of anti-Bulgarian Western propaganda.

But Western diplomats say the mass exodus of Bulgaria's ethnic Turks has taken Sofia by surprise and is a result of a misconceived attempt at ethnic assimilation.

"I don't think anybody expected so many people to simply pack up and leave," one diplomat said. "But they are reaping the seeds of a repressive policy against their largest minority over the past 20 years."

Bulgaria's Turkish population is estimated to be at least 10 per cent of the national population of just under 10 million. More than 80,000 have emigrated to Turkey and some 250,000 have either received permission to leave or are awaiting it.

"They took away our names and surnames and we were no longer Turks," was a typical answer to the question of why whole families had abandoned their homes and were streaming into Turkey with their few belongings piled onto battered cars or dumped into hired buses and trucks.

"I don't want to live here any more, and even if I die in Turkey I will do so as a Turk and a Muslim," said one man who said he had been forced to change his name from Hussein to Pavel as part of the assimilation programme. "How can I go to the mosque to pray under a foreign name?"

Until the early 1960s Bulgaria's Turks, who live mainly in north and southeastern parts of the country, enjoy full ethnic rights with their own schools, newspapers and radio station.

"Then a new nationalistic... policy resulted in moves to create a homogenous state without minority problems," another Western envoy said.

Gradually Turkish language schools were closed, papers and radio stations became bilingual before being abolished in 1985.

These moves were officially explained as the reclaiming of a Bulgarian population that had been converted to Islam during 600 years of Ottoman rule which ended with Bulgarian independence at the end of the last century.

In 1984 Sofia began changing the Muslim names of its Turkish minority for Bulgarian ones despite widespread resistance. The name-changing campaign sparked clashes with police in which at least 40 people were killed.

"They made me change my name when I was in the Army," a young man said. "I almost killed myself. It was terrible."

Apart from the names, the Turks were also barred from having their sons circumcised and from speaking Turkish.

"I was fined in the street by a policeman for speaking Turkish to my girlfriend," another young man said. "I can't describe the humiliation I felt."

Anger at oppression and loss of cultural identity flared in May with a series of hunger strikes and peaceful demonstrations in Turkish villages.

The protests were quashed by police and troops and according to official Bulgarian sources seven people were killed and 25 injured. Western diplomats estimate the number killed in the clashes at between 10 and 30.

"The Turks in Bulgaria have never been politically motivated, but they have very strong ethnic and religious feelings," a Turkish diplomat said. "They have always been loyal citizens but this forceful assimilation was just too much for them."

Bulgarian officials have denied the changing of names was carried out under force.

"Most of them were glad they could change their names," said Chavdar Mladenov, deputy head of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry's Turkish Department.

"They accepted the fact that they were Bulgarians and took Bulgarian names but kept their religion," he said.

At the end of May Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov announced that all "Bulgarian Muslims" were free to leave the country.

Almost immediately tens of thousands of Bulgaria's most qualified workers — truck and tractor drivers, specialised agricultural workers, factory and railway workers — downed tools and stormed the passport offices to apply for papers to leave for Turkey.

"About 100,000 people have not turned up to work since the beginning of June, Ivan Angelov, an economic advisor to the Bulgarian government said recently.

To overcome an acute labour shortage the government has issued a decree allowing enterprises to extend working hours, moving the workforce to the affected regions, retraining office workers for manual professions, cutting holidays and suspending non-essential production.

Angelov said those leaving were withdrawing all their bank savings and purchasing consumer goods to take with them, causing acute shortages in some areas. It was estimated that at least one billion lev (about \$400 million) would be spent before the exodus was over.

Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal has said Turkey would accept Bulgaria's entire Turkish population despite the economic and resettlement difficulties this would impose on Ankara.

Bulgaria says it will not prevent anybody who wishes to leave from going, but Western diplomats are sceptical.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1527 — French Army invades Milanese territory in Italy and seeks to rescue pope.
- 1583 — Russia's Tsar Ivan the Terrible, in fit of rage, kills his son Ivan.
- 1608 — Samuel de Champlain, French explorer, lays foundation of Canadian city of Quebec.
- 1665 — Dutch fleet is defeated by English off Lowestoft, England.
- 1695 — British fleet bombards St. Malo in France.
- 1778 — Prussia declares war on Austria to start War of Bavarian Succession.
- 1849 — French forces enter Rome despite resistance by Giuseppe Garibaldi, and restore Pope Pius IX.
- 1881 — Britain persuades Turkey to sign convention with Greece, whereby Greece gets Thessaly and parts of Epirus.
- 1896 — Abdul Hamid II, Sultan of Turkey, agrees to introduce self-government in Crete, but Greece continues to support insurgents.
- 1944 — Soviet forces take Minsk in World War II, capturing 100,000 Germans.
- 1950 — US and North Korean troops clash for first time in Korean war.
- 1951 — India complains to UN Security Council against Pakistan for violating ceasefire agreement in Kashmir.
- 1962 — Algeria becomes independent after 132 years of French rule.
- 1971 — Indonesians vote in their country's first national election in 16 years.
- 1988 — Tens of thousands of Slovak Catholics converge on remote church in Levoca, Czechoslovakia, in new show of religious strength.

War seems far away until one looks at the sky

ON most mornings, Omar Khan and other Kabul residents are jolted from their sleep shortly before dawn by a hissing sound, a thunderous clap and a roar that rapidly fades.

The sound is repeated at least twice before quiet returns to the Afghan capital. It is heard again sporadically throughout the day.

Government officials make no secret that the source is the Soviet-supplied Scud-B missile, the heaviest weapon used so far in the decade-long war against Muslim rebels known as mujahedeen (Islamic holy warriors).

Expensive and often inaccurate, it is a constant reminder of the firepower the government possesses and of its ability to wage a protracted fight with the rebels.

In Kabul, war seems far away until one looks at the sky. Helicopter gunships chug inside the perimeter of mountains lined with radar installations. Attack jets streak by. Giant military transport planes drop a cascade of flares designed to deflect heat-seeking missiles.

Yet, there is little feeling of imminent danger in the bustling markets. It is the weariness that is most striking — weariness of war and of the world's indifference to the superpower game being played in

war-torn Afghanistan.

"There is a struggle here between two great powers, but we are the ones dying. The Russians and the Americans are talking to each other about limiting atomic weapons, but both are sending rockets and bombs to kill our people. Why? What is our guilt?" the 52-year-old Khan asked.

For centuries, this landlocked country has been the meeting place of East and West, a major stop on the Great Trade and exploration routes and the prize of empire builders from all corners of the globe.

But invading forces have yet to conquer Kabul, and hundreds of thousands of Afghans have fled the provinces to seek sanctuary in its broad, dun-coloured basin.

When Muslim rebels overran their village in eastern Kunar province in 1980, Khan and his family packed the few belongings they could carry, left their small farm and walked 200 kms (125 miles) to the capital.

He set up a small wooden stand and sells plastic shoes in the old bazaar, where veiled women display fruits, nuts and exotic spices. Peasants hawking camel legs compete with the muzzlings calling the faithful to prayer at the city mosques.

But Khan has been unable to escape the war. Four of his seven sons have died in battle. Two are fighting with the rebels, and he worries that his only other child will be called for military duty in a general mobilisation.

"You can't forget about this war," Khan said through an interpreter. "But what are we supposed to do? Run and hide?"

For most Afghans, replacing the peril of a conflict that has claimed 1.3 million lives with the familiar troubles of the past would be welcome. They seem eager to return to the days when battles were as numerous but dealt with land and water instead of ideology.

During the 11 years that the rebels have been fighting to overthrow the Soviet-backed government, many of the harshest consequences have fallen on civilians.

Despite throwing many reserves into the battles and pounding the border cities of Jalalabad, Kandahar and Khost with the heaviest rocket and artillery barrage of the war, the rebels appear to have failed so far to establish a foothold. With casualties rising on both sides, doubt is growing that either has the power to break the impasse.

"We are simple, poor people. Our families may be

with the government, they may be with the mujahedeen. But this has to stop," Khan said.

He and others in the bazaar openly praise the rebels for their struggle against the Soviet forces that intervened to help the Marxist government in 1979, but they remain apprehensive about the fundamentalist rebel leaders and of the destruction the rebels inflicted while seizing provincial towns.

Even among those who speak contemptuously of the government for its history of repression and its role in precipitating the war, there is a tendency to question Washington's decision to continue arming the rebels after the Red Army finished its pullout on Feb 15.

Fired at random from the rebels' mountain hideouts about 25 kms (15 miles) away, Chinese-made 107mm rockets packed with shrapnel usually seldom on the intended targets — military outposts, government installations and the airport.

The rebels control Afghanistan's countryside, but it is the cities they must capture.

In the wards at Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital, feelings are strongest among the doctors trained by Western teachers before war erupted.

Sekina Fouad

By Katia Sabet

JOURNALIST and writer Sekina Fouad likes to go straight to the point and look at facts, especially social and cultural issues. Her sometimes incisive personality has made her a controversial figure on Egypt's cultural scene, but she has managed to make herself heard through her novels, a weekly column devoted to radio and television programmes, and through a magazine she edits.

With her light-coloured skin, almond-shaped eyes and a mouth that does not often smile, Sekina Fouad resembles the heroines in her novels. She welcomes her guest to a small apartment on Dokki Street that's buried under flamboyant trees. In the living room the walls are covered with book-lined shelves, with stacks of videocassettes. Where you expect to find comfortable couches and coffee tables stands an enormous desk littered with papers.

Obviously, work takes up a large part of her life. It's intellectual work, yet she brings to it a great sensitivity and awareness of other people's feelings.

Following are excerpts from her answers to this reporter's questions:

Could you explain what in your background led you to choose your career?

"I was born in Port Said, near the sea. It's probably why all the characters in my novels share the traits of sea-faring people: they are strong-willed, they like challenges, they persevere... and they believe in a better future. When I was growing up the towns on the (Suez) canal experienced the fear and danger of war, with the occupation of Mount Sinai (by Israeli troops); people were mobilized and ready to sacrifice everything; that's where I learned what courage meant. Then I came to Cairo to enroll at the university, but I was married before graduating — I like to do things fast, taking life slow kills me! Then I went to work, and I was lucky to do what I enjoyed most. I am convinced, though, that studies and work did not shape my personality much... we are the product of the environment where we grew up, for me the sea has always been the main factor."

Is it the sea which inspired you to be an activist, almost a pioneer figure in art circles?

"The sea, and war. Circumstances were such that I had to grow up quickly; there was no time to enjoy the sweetness of childhood. I understood early that what looks calm on the surface can hide an abyss of despair. I learned that a smile can hide anguish, and that the most insignificant person can become a hero because of his capacity to endure."

You are one of a few women in the Middle East who have the means to express their opinion publicly because of their profession. Millions of women are not as lucky; what do you have to say to them?

"I have no particular message for them, but I am trying to reach out to the women who can spread a message to tell them that we must be the instruments through which all women can speak. In my books I try to connect to the common experience of women, to break out of my subjective limits to reach a much larger reality reflecting the life of all Egyptian women."

Have you thought about doing your own television programme? And what sort of programme do you have?

"I am not fond of images. My relationship to the written word is more satisfying. And I think my weekly column on television allows some influence on programming, that's the extent of my work with images. I push for TV productions investigating social issues and providing some advice, like 'Rissala' (Message). I suggested that this show be extended to one or two hours, with the co-operation of lawyers, doctors and psychologists who could help people solve their problems. Also, I would like to see again on television productions like 'Les Gens du Caire' (People of Cairo) or 'Usages et Coutumes' (Customs and Mores) which mirrored our society in the 1960s. It would be interesting to watch where we are at now."

What is your evaluation of Egypt's current drama productions, in the theatre, the movies and television?

"I don't think Egypt's people, its beauty, history and hardships are well represented. Many artists and producers do not seem to understand their role or responsibilities. Today's art is a pale heir if you compare it to this nation's 7000-year history and its wealth of human resources throughout centuries past. The recent period when we saw Egypt open its doors wide to everything foreign generated a form of art that reminds me of a skin disease. Gone was the art that probes the human soul and heart."

Why do you think this happened?

"We are just coming out of a period where we had lost track of spiritual values to focus on the material aspects of life. It affected art, as well as our concept of work, education and culture in general. Let's not forget also the spread of images of all sorts that now pervade our life; not that images are without value or superficial, but they encourage intellectual laziness. Years and years ago the French author Georges Duhamel had predicted that culture would decline when images would dominate, and he was speaking before television was invented! Many intellectuals have lost courage and feel useless when confronted with troops of image producers giving us insipid fare that's easy to consume."

Do you believe that censorship is a factor in today's artistic creations?

"We live in a democratic society where we enjoy freedom of expression. However, we are bearing the consequences of a previous era when censorship struck without logic. The system in place still allows a bureaucrat with limited education or a young university graduate to judge the merits of authors like Nobel prize-winner Naguib Mahfouz, Yehia Hakki or Youssef Idriss. When publishing my books and articles I saw first-hand what a free society we had, but I also saw censors act arbitrarily, often because of ignorance or because they misunderstood."

Do you see television playing a positive role in the development of Egypt?

"Television could have a very influential role when it comes to the economy, society and education, for example warning against old customs that should be discarded. But we should have a concerted effort among TV producers. There could be special programmes or even musical entertainment with a message, whatever it takes to reach a large segment of the population. And the first message should be to build more faith in our country and in the virtues of hard work. Artists should warn us about what society will be like if we continue saying 'it's not my problem' and pursue selfish goals."

"I would ask psychologists, sociologists and educators to collaborate on programmes that can

be understood by children as well as adults and would implant the idea that we each have a role to play, we each should give our best. I would be happy if as a result a spectator just goes to clean up his room!"

Are you happy with your own work?

"No. I am never satisfied."

One of your novels, 'La Nuit On Fatma A Ete Arrestee' (The night Fatma was arrested) was recently made into a film, with Fatma Hannana — a prestigious Egyptian actress — in the role of Fatma. Wasn't it something very satisfying?

"It's was a fantastic experience thanks to Mrs. Hannana, who is exceptional. She confirms my belief that success is based not only on raw talent, but also on patience, perseverance, intelligence and personal sacrifice. This great lady of the Egyptian cinema has devoted her life to her art, without compromising in any way. She is not one of these artists led by their whims and passions."

"But I must admit that her Fatma is not the character in my book; the film focuses too much on the individual instead of making her only the symbol of what a whole group of people feels and thinks. The movie also did not show on Fatma the stigma of suffering and tiredness. But then a movie is always a variation on the vision from which the writer creates."

Recently you agreed to step over the barrier between film and book to write the script for another movie based on a novel you wrote which is titled 'Tarwid El Ragol' (Le Dressage de l'Homme/The Training of Man). How is it coming along?

"The pain is incredible! I feel trapped and very sorry for myself (with a laugh). No, seriously, I feel uneasy because writing a movie script does not fit my temperament: I am used to doing what I like, when I feel like it — be it in the kitchen or when I face a blank sheet of paper. To me writing is a love story, while doing a script is something technical; of course there is creativity involved, but I am not alone with my characters, shaping them the way I want to."

This movie which is causing you so much trouble will look at problems in relationships between men and women. The main characters will be played by Maimoun Moursi and Ragida. Could you tell us more about it?

"I wrote 'Le Dressage de l'Homme' after a long talk with Tawfik el Hakim, whose perception of the relationship between an educated man and a woman is very disappointing. You would think that a man with a formal education, because of the knowledge he has gained and his intelligence, would show respect and empathy for the weaker sex. Well, it's the opposite, starting with Socrates and Plato, male intellectuals are women's worst critics."

"Man is born from a woman; there has to be a special relationship. We must fight the antagonism that is too often present between the two sexes. It's abnormal. What's normal is a relationship firmly grounded on friendship and understanding. Circumstances often make dialogue impossible. In my book I tried to show how men and women need each other's support and affection and I ask intellectuals to give the new generations another image of the male-female relationship. Men are not the only guilty party, though; some women who have studied and hold a job see men as adversaries. Sometimes the antagonism must be caused by fear, or disappointments."

Can a woman from the Middle East have the same intellectual friendship with a man that a Western woman does?

"Ideally, yes. But we now see a resurgence of negative theories about the work women should do, girls' education and a woman's role in society. Gains that had been made at the beginning of this century are questioned again: Women's right to attend school and work, for example."

What causes people to turn to the past for answers?

"This question would deserve an in-depth study of the social, historical and economic forces which brought us where we are — caught between the past where some take refuge and the present which is misunderstood, leading us to copy without thought the West's customs and discard ours."

"Starting with a balanced point of view, we should choose among our traditions for what's best and leave behind what is a factor of weakness and does not fit with the truth."

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Intellectual theft

Watch set on piracy

By Atfal Khan

INDIA, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Pakistan are among a group of 25 countries that the United States has placed on a "watch list" because of their inadequate protection of US intellectual property rights (IPR) involving patents, trademarks, copyrights and computer software. India and Saudi Arabia are among eight countries that have been placed on a "Priority Watch List" and their practices regarding IPR will be reviewed again no later than November 1, 1989, to determine whether they should be identified as "priority countries" under the "Special 301" provision of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988.

Under the "Special 301" provision, a designated "priority country" would be investigated by the Office of US Trade Representative (USTR) within 30 days. However, if a country has made progress in recent bilateral negotiations with the US or multilateral negotiations such as the ongoing Uruguay Round conducted under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva, it will not be identified as a "priority" country. The "Priority Watch List" and "Watch List" sub-categories were created by the Bush administration. They were not mandated by the 1988 trade law.

Between now and Nov 1, the United States will be seeking specific negotiating objectives in India and Saudi Arabia as follows:

● **INDIA:** Improved patent protection for all classes of invention, elimination of discrimination against use of foreign trademarks, registration of service marks, effective protection of well-known marks, improved access and distribution for US motion pictures, improved enforcement against piracy, conclusion of an intellectual property annex to the bilateral science and technology agreement, and constructive participation in multilateral intellectual property negotiations.

Product patents

Of particular concern is infringement of product patents of US pharmaceutical companies. According to an Indian embassy official in Washington, protection of product patents at this stage of industrial development in India would increase the cost of life-saving drugs for the poor in India because, he said, those drugs would have to be imported instead of being manufactured indigenously. India currently allows protection of process patents but not product patents, thereby allowing Indian pharmaceutical companies to manufacture almost identical products locally.

A USTR official explained that usually more than one process can be used to make most pharmaceutical products. Thus, process patents alone do not protect US companies that have invented and patented such drugs under the original process.

Representatives from India's recording and computer software industries have recently visited the United States to meet with their counterparts, but no government to government talks have been scheduled so far, according to another USTR official.

● **SAUDI ARABIA:** Enactment of a copyright law, including copyright protection for software and sound recordings, establishment of copyright relations with the United States, and effective enforcement against piracy and counterfeiting of works of US origin.

Saudi Arabia is now working on a draft copy of a copyright law and bilateral discussions are expected to be held late this summer or early autumn, according to a USTR official.

For Egypt and Pakistan, which are simply on a "watch list," the United States will step up its efforts over the next year to resolve the problems associated with inadequate intellectual property protection or barriers to market access.

● **EGYPT:** The United States is encouraged by its bilateral consultations in July 1988 and again in January 1989 aimed at strengthening the intellectual property rights regulations as they operate in Egypt. Currently an Egyptian delegation is visiting the United States to learn about US copyright laws and the United States hopes to resume a bilateral dialogue soon, according to a USTR official.

● **PAKISTAN:** Trademark and copyright infringement is the area of greatest US concern. US book publishers have complained that although Pakistan is a member of the Universal Copyright Convention, its copyright law enforcement is ineffective and penalties for violation extremely weak. However, Pakistan is in the process of amending its existing patent and trademark, and copyright laws. Draft copies of these amended laws are on their way to the United States for USTR to examine prior to scheduling a meeting that Pakistan has requested, according to a USTR official.

Like India, Pakistan now offers protection of process patents but not product patents. As a result, US pharmaceutical companies have complained that this complicates their efforts to pursue infringement allegations in local courts because infringement can only be shown through complex technical and scientific presentations.

Export losses

Pakistan is not a member of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property but is a member of the World Intellectual Property Organisation. The US Treaty of Friendship and Commerce with Pakistan guarantees national and most favoured nation treatment (MFN) for patents, trademarks and industrial property rights.

Estimates of US export business losses due to the non-protection of intellectual property rights covered by copyright were presented recently in an April 1989 report prepared by the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) based in Washington. IIPA estimates losses based on available data and extrapolations from them. Also taken into account are observations by marketing and enforcement representatives from each industry in each country or region.

Formed in 1984, IIPA is an umbrella organisation of seven trade associations, each of which represents a significant segment of the copyright industry in the United States. They are the Computer Software and Services Industry Association (ADAPSO), the American Film Marketing Association (AFMA), the Association of American Publishers (AAP), the Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association (CBEMA), the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), the National Music Publishers Association (NMPA) and the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).

Following are IIPA calculated copyright piracy or restricted market access losses to the US export industry in the concerned countries:

● **INDIA:** An estimated \$123 million were lost in 1988 with \$50 million in computer software, \$33 million in records and tapes, \$25 million in books and \$15 million in movies.

● **SAUDI ARABIA:** An estimated \$189 million were lost in 1988 with \$80 million in records and tapes, \$75 million in movies, \$28 million in computer software and \$6 million in books.

● **EGYPT:** An estimated \$66.5 million were lost in 1988 with \$37.5 million in movies, \$14 million in computer software, \$10 million in books and \$5 million in records and tapes.

IIPA had no report on Pakistan.

In the other important area of the 1988 trade law — the implementation of the "Super 301" provision, the Bush administration hopes to eliminate the following barriers to free trade and competition in India, the only country in the region designated as a "priority country" for USTR investigation:

● **INDIA:** Removal of Indian government control over trade-related investment measures. The Indian government currently approves all new or expanded foreign investment in India. Approval is conditioned upon a number of criteria, including requirements for foreign equity participation, the use of indigenous items in goods produced and meeting domestic export targets. The United States maintains that such performance requirements burden foreign investors, resulting in significant trade distortions.

heart and soul

EVENTS

INDIAN VIDEO ROUND UP

A shining star

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

MOVIES are made, unmade and remade. Let's talk about video magazines that have flooded the market. The latest to come on the scene is known as Starbuzz, a gossip video, if you can call it that. With a slightly off-beat, stylistic presentation, it differs from the other video magazines that have come out on the scene.

Some video magazines are rather boring with lengthy footage of "mahurats" (launch of a new film); invariably, one of the stars breaks a coconut and everyone makes speeches — the viewer only sees them come on stage and hold the mic — a star-studded silent movie with background music, perhaps by Bappi Lahiri (its loud and clear); and everyone smiles and shakes hands, and the camera moves on to another party, with rather vacuous remarks made by some commentator. And if a Kimi Katkar is not showing you her voluptuous assets, you might just go off to sleep.

Although Starbuzz, the latest video magazine to come on the scene, follows a more or less similar format, the com-

mentator keeps you awake with witty remarks. Also, it provides variety entertainment. Apart from mahurats, they have such cheeky interviews like Chunkey Pandey calling himself "Chunkey, Monkey" because he looks for giraffe-like qualities in Amitabh Bachchan and feels that Rekha is a Swan and Sunny, a bull, and finds Kimi rather catty.

It covers latest gossip like why the friendship of Jackie Shroff and Anupam Kher has gone sour. Kher talks about the so-called heated argument during an outdoor shooting in Haryana.

We feel that the "stars" are, at last, being treated like normal human beings, and despite wanting to know everything about them, one wants to give them a little more privacy.

For example, Pooja Bedi's tempestuous affair with Aditya Pancholi is the talk of the town. Eighteen-year-old Pooja talks about the heartbreak and how her broken home background reflects on her present lifestyle. After the interview, she emerges as a sensitive individual, a child-woman, a person who has matured rapidly.

The best of the lot is Amrita

Singh's interview. The girl's has a knack of getting bad press. Her four-letter vocabulary has now become legend in the yellow press in Bombay. She talks of how she got the reputation. Frankly, it doesn't matter to her. "How long can you try to be someone you are not?" asks Amrita unpretentiously. She also talks about herself and how she acquired the title of "Mard (manly) Singh," a joke; that stuck with her. After watching her being herself, we feel that all she has to do on screen is play herself — tempestuous, temperamental and carefree. Unlike her on-camera image, off-the-screen, Amrita is charming and cuddly.

Now, let's look at the recent releases — Hum Bhi Insaan Hain and Taqatwar.

Taqatwar is a better crafted movie, technically more interesting than Hum Bhi Insaan Hain. As the title suggests, it is a poor vs power, honesty vs dishonesty etc. etc. story, in brief, a predictable vendetta tale.

What's nice about Taqatwar is Govinda's role as John D'Mello Ding Dong Wala. Despite his weird family name, John is a rather likeable charac-



Jackie Shroff

ter, like Amitabh's Anthony in Amar Akbar Anthony (there's a similar dance sequence as well). Govinda's tongue-in-cheek interpretation of John gives him an edge over Sunjay. As Amar Sharma, Sunjay's daunting task is to play cool until the heat is turned on by the villain, Khurana (Shakti Kapoor). Anita Raaj and Neelam play the romancers.

Hum Bhi Insaan Hain Romeo and Juliet may have immortalised love. However, the mushy romance of wealthy Radha (Jaya Prada) and penniless Kishan (Jackie Shroff) won't win any hearts in Hum Bhi Insaan Hain.

The big divide between the rich and the poor grows wider as time elapses in Hum Bhi Insaan Hain. As the title suggests, it is a poor vs power, honesty vs dishonesty etc. etc. story, in brief, a predictable vendetta tale.

Radha's and Rekha's obnoxious father, played by Kader Khan, tries to live up to his image. But he is overtaken by the racy events, like poor Kishan's rich incarnation. Later, we also see Radha's apparition, in white, to calm Kishan's frayed nerves, perhaps!

Hum Bhi's... climax is something that must be seen to be believed. We've seen worse climax sequences, but this one takes the cake. It's a rather horsey, unconvincing tale. But you'd like it anyway. We're movie junkies.

The above movies are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya, Tel: 471-2900; and Falcon Video, Abhassiya.

Bangladesh Library

THE Bangladesh Association will open a library at the embassy premises in Khaldiya. The association has invited Bangladeshis to join the "Bangladesh Library" as founder/life members.

Bangladeshis who are interested in getting life-memberships are requested to come to the embassy in person on July 7 and 21 from 6 to 8 pm. They can contact any executive member of the Bangladesh Association for details.

To discuss the formation of the library, a meeting of founder members will be held at the embassy premises at 5 pm on Aug 4.

The association will hold the Eid Al Adha prayers at the Bangladesh embassy at 7 am. All Bangladeshis are invited to attend.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Salem Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Str
Al Sharq Al-Jadid Pharmacy
Souk Al Safat
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Naser Pharmacy
Hawalli, Tunis Str
Sahniya and Rumathiya
Sima Pharmacy
Baghdad Str
Fahad and Ahmadi
Bastor Pharmacy
Fahad, Dabbous Str
New Khaitan
Al Fahad Pharmacy
Warasat Humoud and Zaid
Al Khaled Bldg
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Commercial Market

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.18 am
Zohr	11.52
Asr	3.26 pm
Maghreb	6.51
Isha	8.23

SPORTS

Recreation Centre
SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn Health Club and recreation centre. Separate ladies and mens keep fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill on Mondays at 6 to 7 pm. Also ladies aerobics and mixed aerobics with Touvi Pakasalo. Yoga and bowling alley available for company tournaments. Squash handicap tournament for all standards and squash coaching available from our squash instructors. Also tennis coaching, martial arts starting on Sunday, June 4 and on following Sundays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals. For details contact the recreation department, tel. No. 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

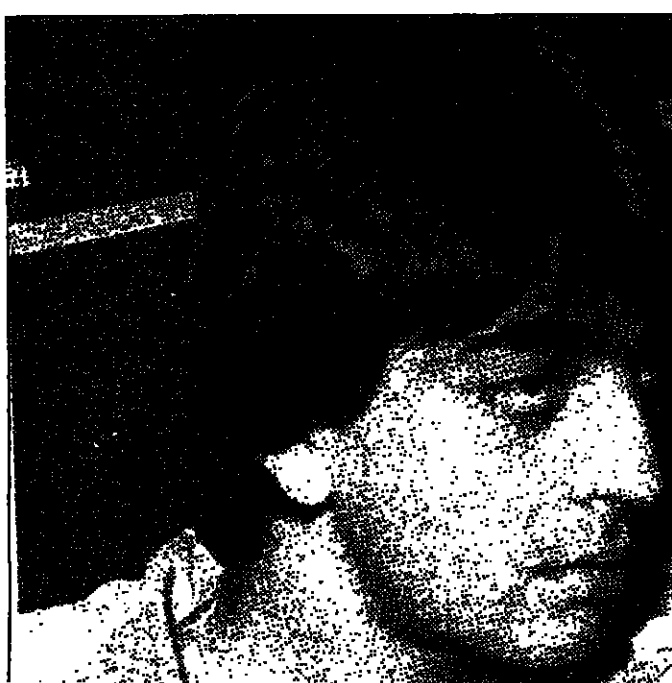
Windsurfing contest
JULY 14: Messilah Beach Hotel is hosting a windsurfing contest for all sailors in Kuwait. Entry forms available from the recreation office. Race entry at KD 2/- per contestant. Three classes 320, 345 and 370. For any further information contact Ken Balman on 5624111 ext. 739/751.

Keep fit
ACQUAFITNESS, judo, karate and taekwondo classes at the Kuwait International Hotel. Ladies keep fit sessions three times a week at La Palma Fitness Centre after which free use of the pool is invited. Barbecue lunch every Friday afternoon by the Garden Pool.

At the Meridien
UNTIL July 31: Ice cream promotion at Al Waha Restaurant in the Saliya Complex.

At the Holiday Inn
A VARIETY of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste, for lunch or dinner at the Holiday Inn Coffee Shop.

At Al Andalus: Arabian Night on Thursday. Family brunch, a wholesome day for the family. Entertainment includes Walt Disney cartoon characters plus performance from the great magician. Delicious food and a variety of desserts all for the price of KD5 for adults and half price per kid. Enjoy a great night out at the swimming pool, starting at 8



Sunjay Dutt



Anupam Kher

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 4 to 7.00 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Tareq Rajab Museum
Sat - Thurs: 9-12 noon and 4-7 pm. Also open on Fridays from 9 to 12 noon.

SOCIAL

Kapilku meeting
JULY 5: Kapilku officers will hold a meeting on Wednesday, July 5, at Far East Restaurant, at 8 pm. Topics to be discussed are: Philippine community day; Murya ng Pilipinas Kuwait; free classes — tailoring, dress-making, computers and book-keeping/accounting; 10 most outstanding Filipino/Makabayan award 1988/89; fund-raising for the late Ms. Marylani Omran.

"Hotter Than July"
July 7 (Friday): A pop, rock, country and reggae music festival to be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel Ballroom from 7 to 10 pm. The groups to be featured are Top Ranks, Earthquake, Zambezi, Manila Boys, Louie Villeveau, Daniel Sisters and special guest appearance by Steve Michael. Tickets priced at KD5/- are available at: Messilah Beach Hotel — Tel. 5624111 Ext. 721/729; Art Corner, Nagra: 2665068/2659820; Swan Lake Recording, Saliya: 5721030; No. 1 Records, Sultan Center — 5719620 Ext. 46. Special offer for office and home delivery of tickets please call 2669963, 3928504 and 5639689.

Musical instruments will be given as gifts on entrance tickets.

Red and Black nite
JULY 11: The Weekend Club will host the Red & Black Nite at the Sheikh Ballroom of the Regency Palace with Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers and Stepping Stones in attendance. Dress is informal but red and black combinations. Highlights include selection of the Red and Black Couple, most original costume and a live contest. Gala buffet dinner is included. For reservations contact Hilary: 5741380 Julio: 5734513 and Mercedes: 4890566.

D'Assisi Social Evening
AUG 1: D'Assisi Association will hold their social evening at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The highlights of the evening will be the crowning of D'Assisi Queen. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will provide the music. For more information contact Joe Jack Ferns on 5644178, Henry 3717346 or contact A.M. Fine Artist, Shop No. 34, Al Karak Super Market, near GPO, Kuwait.

United Goans
AUG 3: Summerbelle '89 is about to happen. United Goans Centre present "Top Ranks and Stepping Stones" in a music saturated evening at the Tent SAS Hotel. Crowning of Summerbelle, various competitions, etc. to keep you on your toes. For details contact: Moses 2454266, Joe 5655140 Anice 2439249 after 6 pm.

Kapilku children's contest
AUGUST 8: Kapilku, association for Filipinos in Kuwait, will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, at Kuwait Plaza Hotel at 3 pm. This coincides with Araw ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). Deadlines for submitting entries is July 28. For particulars contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects: chairman, or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 4843447.

Tivim Centre
OCT. 26: Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Lot of surprises await. For further information contact the organisers.

HOTELS

At the Messilah Beach
AL MUBARAKIAH, the

Shares for staff

Swissair to improve business class on MD-81

SWISSAIR is to offer business class customers more legroom on its 22 MD-81 aircraft from summer 1990, company president Otto Loeple told management staff yesterday. The low-noise and fuel-efficient MD-81 forms the backbone of the carrier's short-haul fleet. Loeple also reported encouraging results for the first five months of 1989 thanks to buoyant traffic and favourable currency exchange rate trends. He further announced that the 20,000 staff will each receive a Swissair share, in appreciation of their extra efforts during the carrier's current corporate restructuring.

The additional space in the MD-81's business class will be provided by removing a seat row from the first class cabin. The announcement follows executive management's spring decision to enhance business

class comfort on the carrier's Boeing 747s, and on the MD-11s due to replace its DC-10s. Both measures are part of a comprehensive improvement of the Swissair product.

Loeple described Swissair's business performance for the first five months of the year as "good," with results above both the previous year's figures and budgeted projections. Traffic developed encouragingly, while results were further buoyed by favourable currency exchange rate movements.

Loeple also reported on the present state of Swissair's corporate restructuring, designed to align the company more closely to the market and the customer. The broad structures of all eleven corporate divisions should be in place by August 1, one year since the project began.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Good Morning programme
9.30 (Itah Ya Simsim: Children serial)
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Daily Arabic serial: Hafat Al Hawiya
11.00 News in brief
11.20 Arabic serial: Al Naser Wa Ayoun Al Madinah
12.00 News in brief
12.15 Songs
12.35 Cultural film
1.00 News in brief
1.05 World Today via Satellite

1.30 Cartoon serial: Flouma
2.15 Daily Arabic Serial
3.00 Religious Encyclopedia
3.30 Cartoon serial: Bibi Folk and Climauro
4.00 Historical serial: Abdul Rahman Al Ghafiqi
5.45 Children and summer
6.30 Public announcements
7.00 Cultural programme
7.30 Songs
7.45 Holy Quran and Science
8.30 Weekly programme: Monday Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 Daily Arabic serial: Al Yaqueen
10.45 Arabic feature film
12.30 News in brief
12.35 World Today via Satellite and closedown.

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial
6.30 Scheme of Things: examines the greatest colossus ever built by man.
7.00 Roving Report: a weekly report on world news and views.
7.30 Charles-in-Charge
8.00 News in English
8.30 Raj: a special programme on the pilgrimage
9.00 Paradise
10.00 Indelible Evidence: this programme recreates the story of real crimes committed by men and women.
10.30 Jackie and Mike
11.45 News Summary: Magazine D'Actualite: Holy Quran/Closedown



The cast of Charles-in-Charge on KTV2 at 7.30 pm today.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nabulsi denies plan to sell gold

AMMAN, Jordan, July 2. (Agencies): Central Bank officials have denied plans to trade more gold for foreign currency or to devalue the Jordanian dinar, newspapers reported today.

The English-language Jordan Times quoted the Governor of the Central Bank, Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi as saying he opposed additional sales of gold.

Nabulsi was denying parts of an interview attributed to him in Thursday's editions of the Jordan Times and its Arabic-language sister paper, Al-Rai.

Nabulsi said Jordan's gold reserves stood at 740,000 ounces rather than 600,000 ounces as earlier reported.

He also said 140,000 ounces had earlier been used as collateral to obtain foreign currency. He denied that the bank planned to use an additional 140,000 ounces, as reported.

The Arabic-language Sawt Al-Shaab, meanwhile, quoted an unidentified Central Bank official as denying widespread rumours that a further devaluation of the currency was planned.

"There is no basis for rumours the government is going to devalue the Jordanian dinar by 10 per cent," he was quoted as saying.

The dinar, worth about \$3 early last year, now stands at about \$1.75 officially, but has traded for as little as 1.30 on the black market in Amman.

Nabulsi said the government was exerting efforts towards securing new resources of foreign currency through provision of imports and realizing a considerable reserve at the Central Bank.

He said the remittance of Jordanian expatriates were important part of Jordan's foreign currency resources, expressing hope that confidence would be restored within the coming few weeks to secure the flow of expatriates' savings at its natural level.

Nabulsi said Jordan's economy reform programme was agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund prior to final approval on July 7. He said the programme was aimed at stabilising and reducing financial deficit.

Egypt to cut oil prices

CAIRO, Egypt, July 2. (AP): Egypt has decided to reduce its oil-export prices by \$1.75 for all grades effective tomorrow, a senior Oil Ministry official said today.

Hammad Ayoub, head of the ministry's foreign trade department, said the new prices are \$16 a barrel for the top-grade Gulf of Suez blend, \$15.15 a barrel for Belayim, \$14 a barrel for Ras Badran and \$13.70 a barrel for Ras Ghareb.

The drop is the first this year, with successive increases almost each month until May 1. There have been no official prices announced since then, and Ayoub did not indicate whether a reduction had been in effect earlier.

He did not specify until when the new prices would remain effective.

KD deposit rates ease

KUWAIT, July 2. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates fell in a quiet market today after the government-owned Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) placed large amounts of short-term money into the system, dealers said.

The funds were placed until July 5, the day 50 million dinars in new 91-day treasury bills will be issued. Dealers said such a move by the KIA was unusual.

They said tight liquidity on Thursday apparently had been caused in part when the KIA withdrew up to 60 million dinars from the system last week.

Overnight rates fell to one per cent from 20 to 10 per cent on Saturday. Tomorrow's next fell to 0.5 per cent compared to seven.

Record exports

SAUDI ARABIA's exports of agricultural and animal products for 1988 hit a new record. The kingdom's exports of vegetables, fruits, ornamental plants, date palm seedlings, animal products, wheat and fodder reached 2,863,000 tons which amounted to \$320,000,000.

EEC's move towards unified market

Policies create uncertainty in Gulf: study

THE European Economic Community's drive towards a unified common market by 1992 and the continent's subsequent trade and financial policies are creating considerable concern and uncertainty among EEC's trading partners, both in the developed as well as the developing countries, according to GIB monthly report.

It is feared that Europe's ambitious plans for realizing a single market by tearing down all internal trade barriers will create in the process a more protectionist "fortress Europe".

Non-European countries may be hindered from gaining access to the continent's unified market by way of strict applicability of reciprocity measures, coupled with generally stiffer trade policy, less liberal attitude towards outside investments and limitations on the activities of non-EEC institutions in the European market.

There is little doubt that the formation of a common market will make Europe more inward looking, in the sense that European business would prefer to look more to Europe itself for markets and products after 1992. Similar to the situation the US where American companies target the domestic market first while exports are treated as

residual sources of revenues. Furthermore, investment by EEC countries outside Europe would be lower than it might otherwise have been after 1992, because more potentials are perceived to exist in the community's markets than abroad.

The formation or expansion of a custom union will generally have a negative effect on the terms of trade of the rest of the world since some trade diversion is unavoidable.

A unified European market will cause a member country to switch its purchases from external suppliers to ones from inside the EEC. Trade diversion would therefore occur even if the 1992 arrangements leave the average level of external protection for the EEC unchanged.

The European commission argues that the traditional trade diversion effects will be offset by the stimulus to growth generated within the community due to the creation of a common market, which will in turn stimulate imports into the EEC. However, the fact that existing protectionist measures consist more of quota barriers (which limit the volume of imports) than tariffs, an expansion of income in the EEC could have only a small impact on the community's imports.

Henry T. Azzam, the chief

economist of GIB said the implication of such a development to the GCC countries could be significant. The Gulf states are crucial trading partners to the EEC. In 1987, the EEC accounted for 43.5 per cent of total GCC imports (as compared to 17.3 per cent for Japan and 13.2 per cent for the US).

The value of these imports were around \$16.6 billion or 17 per cent of EEC exports to all developing countries. The GCC remains a major oil supplier to the European Economic Community, even though its share of the EEC's oil market has declined recently.

Gulf exports to the EEC primarily crude oil and oil products, were around \$9.8 billion last year while the corresponding import figure was \$14.2 billion, generating a trade balance of \$4.4 billion in favour of the European Economic Community.

The EEC's current account surplus with the six Gulf states is even larger, given the huge income generated by European firms exporting services to the Gulf, expenditures of Gulf tourists in Europe and remittances from Europeans working in the region.

The GCC states, like other major EEC's trading partners are concerned with develop-

ments in Europe post 1992. The Community already imposes tariff and other trade restrictions on petrochemical exports from the Gulf, despite the virtual absence of GCC tariffs and quota barriers on imports of European manufactured goods.

The Gulf states would continue to stress adherence to reciprocity in order to gain better access to European petrochemical markets.

The possibilities open for American and Japanese exporters to set up EEC-incorporated subsidiaries are not considered viable options for Gulf petrochemical subsidiaries in Europe cannot be justified on economic development grounds, nor does it serve the long term strategy of economic diversification and industrialization in the Gulf.

In the absence of a free trade agreement with the EEC, the GCC countries may reconsider their commitment to non-protectionist policies and increase their trade relation with countries that do not impose restrictions on imports of Gulf petrochemicals and other manufacturing products.

In the banking and financial services sectors, Gulf banks active in the international markets are concerned that they may be at a disadvantage in their European related business after

1992 compared to EEC institutions.

While the single market programme will clearly increase the linkages between EEC financial markets and create new banking and investment opportunities, the strict application of certain aspects of this programme would reduce the participation of non-EEC financial institutions in the European markets.

In particular, the implementation of the reciprocity provision could essentially prohibit a non EEC firm to undertake activities in the European market that EEC firms are not allowed to undertake in the foreign country.

Furthermore, the opening of competition across product and geographic lines may squeeze profit margin faster than business can grow.

It is therefore important for Gulf banks to understand the full implications of such a development and position themselves strategically in order to be able to compete and to continue servicing their clients in the European market post 1992.

For the business sector, the opening of European markets will provide the advantage of lower unit costs of production as markets are supplied with uniform products.

Unit cost of distribution will drop when border controls are

abolished and European companies will enjoy a larger domestic market similar to their American and Japanese competitors.

The biggest single markets in the EEC, West Germany with some 60 million people, France and Britain with about 55 million each, are relatively small compared to the domestic markets of Japan and the US.

The impact on non-EEC countries is equally important. The steps towards a common market by 1992 will help consolidate Europe's position as the world's single largest trading bloc.

The EEC is both the world's largest exporter and its biggest importer. It accounts for just over 25 per cent of world trade or 40 per cent if intra-EEC trade is included. Therefore, the expected growth stimulus from the single market will immediately spread worldwide. However, the impact of a single market on non-EEC countries will depend on the Community's future trade policies.

The expansion of intra-regional trade may lead to the strengthening of external EEC trade barriers, effectively offsetting the increase in imports generated by higher European growth prospects.

There is also the possibility that the EEC may give special

consideration to certain industries considered sensitive (e.g. automotive, textiles, petrochemicals and electronic industries) when the community is going through a critical period of re-organization.

In the financial sphere, the establishment of a single EEC market by 1992 would allow all EEC credit institutions to offer cross-border services throughout the community.

Azzam said in the last decade the Gulf countries have come to assume an important role in European Community's world wide trade. In the last six years, the GCC countries received more imports from the twelve member European Economic Community than from both the US and Japan combined.

In 1988, GCC imports from the EEC were around \$14.2 billion close to three times the imports from the US and Japan of \$5.63 billion and \$6.56 billion respectively.

The largest market for European products is Saudi Arabia, accounting in 1988 for 50 per cent of total GCC imports, followed by UAE (16 per cent), Kuwait (11 per cent), Oman (6.7 per cent), Bahrain (3.3 per cent) and Qatar (3.1 per cent).

(Continued on Page 12 Col. 1)

Aid pledge to spur recovery in Manila

Japan hosts conference

TOKYO, July 2. (AP): Envoys of at least 19 countries and 14 financial institutions convene here tomorrow to work out an aid programme to spur economic recovery in the Philippines.

Some aid pledges are expected to arise from the conference, which ends Wednesday. Philippine government officials have estimated that the country needs about \$10 billion in assistance to meet goals including 6.5 per cent annual economic growth.

Its foreign debt is estimated at \$28 billion.

Over the next five years, the Philippines also seeks to create five million jobs and control inflation, officials say.

The United States has pledged \$200 million to the aid programme.

Conference host Japan, which is the Philippines' largest net donor, has yet to announce its intended contribution to the plan.

Japan has stressed that the meeting aims to better co-ordinate aid efforts to the Philippines. An improvement in the Philippine economy will attract more private investment, officials say.

Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus told reporters in Manila, where he is meeting with other Southeast Asian foreign ministers, "our expectations (for the Tokyo meeting) are high."

"The important thing is not to get fixed amounts," but whatever is required "to generate economic growth in the Philippines," he added.

The hope is that millions of dollars in investments will



James Baker

accompany the aid, Manglapus said.

Manglapus is to fly to Tokyo Tuesday to join in the aid talks but return to Manila the following day.

US Secretary of State James Baker is to arrive in Tokyo on Tuesday to attend the conference and meet separately with Japanese Prime Minister Souseike Uno and Foreign Minister Hiroshi Mitsuoka.

Manglapus said a multilateral plan can work. He said the international governmental group on

Indonesia began slowly but has gained momentum.

Among the countries to be represented in the Tokyo conference are Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Britain, the United States and West Germany.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund will lead 14 financial institutions also expected to attend.

Stage set for more investment

KUALA LUMPUR, July 2. (KUNA): The stage is set for more investment and faster growth in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand as more labour-intensive industries migrate to these Southeast Asian countries.

Singapore was an excellent case study to emulate for other countries pursuing export-led growth, said the Centre for Research and Communication of the Philippines' senior vice-president Bernardo M. Villegas.

He said in a paper on "Economic adjustment, financing and growth in South-East Asia during the

1980's—an overview," that the importance of being able to recognise transition periods and to adapt strategies accordingly was important.

Villegas was addressing participants of a three-day seminar themed "Strategies for structural adjustment: the experience of South-East Asia," co-sponsored by the International Monetary Fund and Bank Negara Malaysia.

He said such a situation was already developing in Singapore and other newly industrialized countries. However, Villegas said each of the four countries has its own set of advantages.

American economy slowing down sharply

NEW YORK, July 2. (UPI): Stocks tumbled this week as government reports stirred fears of a recession and US debt reached a record high.

On the corporate front, the Time Inc. Warner Communications Inc and Paramount Communications Inc. takeover triangle continued, while troubled Integrated Resources Inc. got an offer from Drexel Burnham Lambert for a \$300 million loan to keep its financial products sales network intact.

On Wednesday, the Commerce Department reported the government's index of leading economic indicators, designed to predict future economic activity, fell 1.2 per cent in May.

The drop was the third monthly decline in the last four months and the steepest decline since November 1987 in the wake

of the Oct 19 stock market crash.

The report apparently focused investors' attention on the possibility of a recession rather than a less-threatening "soft landing" that would take the steam out of inflation while avoiding economic hardship.

The market quickly backed off from last week's post-crash highs, losing substantial ground the last three days of the week.

Recession fears may have been affirmed by another Commerce report Friday that showed orders for US factory goods fell 2.5 per cent during May, giving another indication the economy is slowing down.

The \$5.9 billion decline in manufacturer's orders to \$234 billion was the first decline since February, and the biggest drop since July 1988 when they were off 3.6 per cent.

Jerry Jasnowski, chief economist for

the National Association of Manufacturers, said, "the sharp decline drives home the point that the economy is slowing down sharply and underlines the need for the Fed to loosen monetary policy."

On Thursday, leading European central banks raised key lending rates in a concerted move seen as a bid to slow down inflation and prevent a new rally of the dollar. The dollar slipped Friday but had recovered losses suffered immediately after the European rate hikes.

Also on Thursday, the Commerce Department released more bad news, reporting the US debt — the difference between US foreign holdings and foreign holdings in the United States — reached a record \$532.5 billion last year.

Foreign holdings rose \$238.2 billion, or 15.4 per cent, compared with a 7.2 per cent

increase, or \$84 billion, in US assets, the department said.

The world's largest creditor until this decade, the United States slipped into the red in 1985 due to escalating trade deficits and a need to finance budget deficits with ever larger amounts of foreign capital.

Good news arrived on the foreign front Thursday when Commerce announced Japan had agreed to give foreign companies greater access to its mobile telephone market.

The agreement was seen as the result of Bush administration threats of retaliation for Japanese roadblocks and a tough law passed by Congress last year aimed at unfair trade competition.

The agreement was an outgrowth of a complaint by Motorola Inc., a major manufacturer of mobile phones.

Plan to boost gas exports

JAKARTA, July 2. (OPECNA): Indonesia is expected to increase annual exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Japan and South Korea by two million tons and 700,000 tons respectively by the end of 1992.

Faisal Abda'oe, president of the state oil company Pertamina, said here Wednesday.

He told the press that plans for additional exports to the two East Asian countries were currently under negotiation, but might be finalised by the end of 1992 or early 1993.

The planned increase of LNG sales to the two countries was in line with increasing demand in Japan, he pointed out.

Under existing long-term contracts (20 years), Pertamina is exporting 16.6 million tons and 2.1 million tons of LNG each year to Japan and South Korea respectively. In addition, the delivery of 1.5 million tons of LNG annually to Taiwan will begin early next year.

Abda'oe said that in order to support the planned additional LNG exports, Pertamina, in conjunction with a Japanese consortium, would soon construct a new LNG train in Bontang, east Kalimantan, with a production capacity of about two million tons per annum.

"The negotiations for the construction of the new LNG train in Bontang are expected to be concluded by September 1989," he said.

Concerning foreign exchange earnings from LNG exports, Abda'oe said that their total value had decreased from \$2.51 billion in 1987-88 to only 1.96 billion last year.

However, the value of LNG exports to South Korea had increased from \$42.1 million in 1986-87 to 336.6 million in 1987-88 and to 347.9 million last year, he said.

According to Abda'oe, the Bontang natural gas liquefaction plant in east Kalimantan currently produces 9.2 million tons of LNG yearly, while annual output at the Arun plant in Aceh stands at 9.8 million tons.

USCB doubles profits

NICOSIA, July 2. (Reuters): The United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) showed continued strong profits in the first half of the year after ending a string of bad results last year, a bank statement said today.

In the first six months of 1989, USCB made 40.58 million riyals (\$10.82 million) compared with a net loss of 1.37 million riyals (\$365,382) in the same period last year.

Cost-cutting measures last year allowed the bank to make a net profit of 20.7 million riyals (\$5.5 million) on the whole of 1988, its first profit in four years. The measures included cutting staff to 318 from 435.

The unaudited results, sent to Reuters in Cyprus, showed a 270

per cent rise in net profit before provisions to 55.58 million riyals (\$14.82 million) in the first half from 15.02 million riyals (\$4 million) in the first six months of 1988.

Total assets remained relatively unchanged around 4.6 billion riyals (\$1.2 billion) while provisions were cut to 15 million riyals (\$4 million) from 16.4 million riyals (\$4.37 million).

Saudi International Bank, Bank Meli Iran and United Bank Limited of Pakistan each own a 10 per cent stake in USCB while Saudi Arabian nationals hold the remaining 70 per cent. The bank was established in October 1983.

Meanwhile, Iraqi Oil Minister

ACC may set up a carrier

BAGHDAD, July 2. (AP): Civil aviation officials and senior airline executives of the Arab Co-operation Council's four member states opened a conference today on the possibility of setting up a joint carrier.

The ACC was launched in February to boost the economic capabilities of the four countries — Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen.

The four countries' carriers are believed to have a collective fleet of more than 70 aircraft, most of them Boeing or Airbus.

Majid Al Dairi, head of Iraq's Civil Aviation Authority, told the Associated Press that the meeting also aims at co-ordinating the four countries' effort in the field of civil aviation which eventually would lead to the setting up of one aviation authority for the four countries.

He said the strategy will include economic and technical integration.

Nouredine Al Safi, chairman of Iraqi Airways, a longtime advocate of greater co-operation among Arab airlines, told AP:

"We are facing fierce competition from other international airlines and we expect this competition to increase when the European countries form their own group," Safi said.

Political aims in Koito deal denied

Businessmen flay Pickens

TOKYO, July 2. (AP): American corporate raider T. Boone Pickens on Friday denied political motivations in buying into a Japanese firm, but said he doesn't expect to make much money from the deal.

"My chances for making a substantial profit from this investment are minimal. So there must be another reason," he said, without elaborating.

When asked if his crusade to break into the Japanese investment market was aimed at helping his race for governor of Texas, Pickens said, "No. How could it help me?"

Pickens became the largest shareholder in Koito Manufacturing Co., an automobile lighting company partly owned by Toyota Motor Corp., last March 31, and has been unsuccessfully fighting for representation on its board of directors for the past several months.

Koito shareholders at the company's annual meeting Thursday overwhelmingly voted against granting three seats on its board of directors to Pickens and two associates.

Pickens has taken his problems to Washington as a trade and investment issue, arguing his difficulties represent the closed nature of the Japanese business system.

"We need the same access to foreign markets as they have in ours," Pickens told a press luncheon Friday.

But Koito executives say they are resisting Pickens' advances not because he is an American but because they doubt he has a long-term interest in the company.

Japanese businessmen and analysts have criticised Pickens for what they claim is politicising a private business transaction.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

9	Florest	Asaswan	4746018
12	Norasia Arabia	Emad	4841807
14	Sparkle Moon	GH&Q	4347815
15	Mareike	Algh Barwil	4842988
18	Stavento	GH&Q	4347815
20	Rainbow Star	GH&Q	4347815
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
03/7	Fathulhair	KSA	4843150
03/7	Meghpal	S. Shaheen	2432692
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Taojiang	RSMS	2423642
6	Stammariner	Algh. Barwil	4843988
9	Ascona	Algh. Barwil	4843988
11	Victor	ISA	2441860
BH-3	Barge-308	S. Shaheen	2432692
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
3/7	Jabel Ali	UASC	4843150
3/7	Torbay	KMMC	2419814
5/7	Marjon	Al Kamal	2425437
7/7	Doric Armour	Algh. Barwil	4843988
7/7	Oriental Patriot	GH&Q	4347815
COMPILED BY:			
Alghamir Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988			
Ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712			

Peace plan gives boost to oil firms

LUANDA, July 2, (Reuters): An end to Angola's 14-year-old civil war will not immediately affect the country's thriving oil industry but should greatly improve operating conditions, the head of Angola's biggest oil producing company said yesterday.

Will Lewis, managing director of the US-owned Cabinda Gulf Oil Company (CABGOC), said his firm and the dozen other foreign oil companies working in Angola welcomed the peace plan agreed between the government and the rebel movement UNITA on June 22.

"It's a big boost in morale, people are very optimistic," he told Reuters.

Lewis said the peace plan, which included a ceasefire that began on June 24, would not lead to any immediate increase in Angola's current oil output of 455,000 barrels per day.

"There will be no immediate effect," he said, explaining that production and exploration had rarely been directly affected by the guerrilla war waged by UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

Government troops and Cuban soldiers have been guarding oil installations in the northern enclave of Cabinda, where more than 50 per cent of Angola's oil is produced. Cabinda Gulf, owned by Chevron Corp., is the operator of the Cabinda area.

"We didn't spend much money on security, we relied totally on the government," Lewis said.

Exploration of Angola's oil-rich offshore blocks has continued rapidly despite the war and total production is expected to reach more than 500,000 barrels per day by the end of 1990.

But Lewis said lasting peace should give a big boost to overall business and operating conditions for foreign oil firms.

Peace would encourage more foreign companies to invest in Angola and speed up the delivery of vital equipment and the completion time of new projects.

Lewis said the financial drain of the civil war had resulted in some cash-flow problems for the Angolan government, forcing it to be heavily dependent on external credits to finance its share of joint ventures in oil.

Bank governor gets 2 deputies

AMMAN, July 2, (Reuters): The Jordanian government today named Michel Mario and Mohammed Saleh Hourani as deputies to Central Bank Governor Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi, an official source said.

The previous deputy governor, Maher Shukri, resigned in May as part of a shake-up of economic posts ordered by New Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker following price riots in April.

Mario, 48, has worked as an economist for the World Bank in Washington and was general manager of a local commercial bank, Bank of Jordan, before his appointment to the Central Bank.

Hourani was general manager of the cities and villages development bank, a specialised credit institution.

GIC's total assets grew by 32pc last year

DR KHALED AL FAYEZ, chief executive officer of Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) has said by the end of last year, GIC has completed five years of operations. During this period GIC built up its technical capability, established operating controls and procedures systems, and developed a first class computer support system.

Al Fayez said in GIC's annual report over the five years period, GIC's total assets grew by 32 per cent annually reaching \$17.17 billion by the end of 1988. Shareholders equity increased from \$420 million at the end of 1984 to \$730 million at the end of 1988.

The average rate of return on paid up capital for the five years period was 11 per cent. Net income for 1988 was \$38.4 million.

1988 was an important year with regard to development of GIC's investments in projects within the GCC countries.

Direct investment portfolio increased from around \$10 million at the end of 1987 to \$44 million at the end of 1988.

The amount represents GIC's investment in ten projects.

The total estimated cost of these projects is about \$830 million. GIC was able to identify 28 new opportunities for investment during the year bringing the total investments opportunities investigated by GIC since its inception to over 120.

The year also saw an increased

activity in the investment and trading of securities and a strengthening of GIC's capabilities in the area of portfolio management.

GIC played a leading role in a number of loans to borrowers in the GCC countries, including the management of \$400 million for the development of the North Dome gasfield in Qatar, and a \$220 million lease financing for Gulf Air.

The report added world economy in 1988 was once again concerned with the issues of foreign exchange stabilisation, the potential for creeping inflation and its perceived effects, and the eventual impact of rising interest rates on the financial markets and on economic growth.

These global concerns stemmed from anxiety about the general economic trends and politics in the world's largest economy, the United States. More specifically, they centred on the persistent US internal and external deficits at a time of declining savings and rising consumption.

Nevertheless, the world capital markets in 1988 continued to recover their composure following the crash of October 1987. Hence the initial caution was gradually transformed into renewed economic vigour in the industrialised economies, with rising employment, improved productivity, co-ordination of economic policies, and continued volatility in the foreign

exchanges.

The year also saw further world-wide currency realignments, higher interest rates, improved liquidity, healthier capital formation, lower energy prices, and an expanded world trade volume.

On the other hand, inflation remained constrained but not subdued, the outlook for the security markets remained mixed, and the situation of indebtedness of the less developed countries was still stalemated.

There were also moves by the GCC member states to integrate downstream, this time international through joint ventures.

These moves were destined to



Khaled Al Fayez

maximise the value added to the region's most important natural resource, guarantee secure crude market outlets in advanced countries, and stabilise revenues.

As such, Saudi Arabia acquired a 50 per cent interest in three Texaco refineries and fuel marketing systems in the US, including 50 terminals and more than 11,000 retail stations.

Similarly, the UAE increased its stake in the French oil company Total. These moves should serve to better balance the common interests of the oil producing and the oil consuming countries.

The GIC annual report said the evident improvement experienced by the banking sector in 1988 could be attributed to a better trade climate, higher interest rates, enhanced asset accumulation, diminished loan-loss provisions, and further cuts in operating expenditures.

These changes were particularly evident among Saudi, Kuwaiti, and UAE banks, where profits had doubled or even tripled over earlier periods despite a background of reduced regional oil revenues, volatile foreign exchange, and a lingering global debt problem.

Equally evident in 1988 was a renewed climate of confidence in which the banking sector was operating. This was due in large part to the ongoing constructive interventionist approach provided by the countries' monetary

authorities, particularly with regard to enabling regulations and procedures and the introduction of new market instruments.

Consequently, strict official guidelines for lending, interest rates, capital, bad loans, and dispute settlement made further inroads in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Bahrain.

This renewed confidence also induced some banks to raise their paid-up capitals, both to build up their equity base and to expand their capacity of new lending. Hence the moves by six of Saudi Arabia's twelve commercial banks to increase their capital.

Bahrain's offshore banking centre also enjoyed a sense of renewal in 1988, as it began to recover from the 1987 heavy provisioning.

The banks of the GCC region in 1988 continued to engage mainly in the traditional commercial banking activities of trade, finance and medium-term short-term and medium-term lending. But consumer credit began to emerge as one of the fastest growing lending areas as the banks' credit risk assessment ability improved and the need for deferred payments increased.

Product innovation activities remained at a minimum owing to the absence of need and to high development costs. Merchant banking remained non-existent and private banking minimal, while the performance of the

investment funds created earlier by GCC banks showed some improvement.

It said subsequent to the years of peak oil revenues, there had been earnest discussion to develop the GCC region's capital market. Talk had centred on the desirability of financial independence and on the need to marshal accumulated public and private financial resources.

Such steps were meant to be a joint effort between the region's public sector and financial institutions in order to hasten a new era in the development of monetary policy tools, and some progress in this regard was made.

Kuwait initiated the use of treasury bills and bonds in 1987 to finance its public debt, to absorb excess liquidity, and to encourage the reflow of Kuwaiti capital.

This was followed in 1988 by the launching of twenty-seven 90-day treasury bills and eight 1-5 year bonds. All were favourably received by the financial institutions and the private sector.

Also, the local Kuwaiti-dinar bond market was reopened with a KD10-million issue of the Real Estate Bank.

The most important development for the region's capital market in 1988 was the decision by Saudi Arabia to launch its development bonds while continuing to issue its Bankers Security Deposit Account (BSDA) certificates for the dual

purpose of regulating monetary policy and financing a persistent budgetary deficit.

The GCC governments maintained a dominant role in their respective economies throughout 1988. Economic activities continued to depend on public spending in as much of this way related to national defence, public works, operation and maintenance, and manpower development.

Also, local development institutions continued lending for industrial and agricultural development at preferential rates.

The construction industry in 1988 managed to attain a balanced performance, with private construction rising noticeably and public construction maintaining the improved momentum gained in 1987.

The international capital markets will remain active, with continued volatility in interest rates and foreign exchange. But toward mid-year, these will moderate, and both the dollar and interest rates will assume a descending trend to the benefit of the yen, Deutsche mark, and pound sterling.

The GCC region's public revenues and spending in 1989 are expected to remain at their 1988 levels, although the private sector will increase its participation. As such, the private sector's share in GNP and in non-oil GDP will rise further.

World Bank lending hits record

New commitment to Third World

WASHINGTON, July 2, (Reuters): The World Bank pledging a new commitment to the developing world, said today that total new loans approved for the year ended June 30 were a record \$21.4 billion compared with \$19.2 billion for the prior year.

In a briefing for reporters, officials said they anticipated that lending would increase an additional \$1.75 billion in the current fiscal year.

Noting that content of bank activity was more important than the amount of money that is lent, bank officials said that "growth alone does not necessarily reduce poverty."

The officials said the bank is in the midst of a major expansion of programmes that will invest directly in what it called human capital — in education, health,

nutrition, and in efforts to address issues of population planning and the enhancement of the role of women.

Bank officials said that total bank loans in the year just completed amounted to \$16.4 billion compared with \$14.7 billion in the prior fiscal year.

Total credits approved under the International Development Association, which makes money available on essentially an interest-free basis to the very poorest countries, were \$4.9 billion compared with \$4.5 billion.

Bank funds actually disbursed in the year just ended amounted to \$11.6 billion, identical with last year, while IDA disbursements amounted to \$3.8 billion from \$3.4 billion.

Bank senior vice-president for operations Moeen Qureshi,

speaking with reporters, also said that bank loans to the highly indebted countries amounted to 48 per cent of total loans in the year just ended compared with 43 per cent in the prior year.

He estimated that a similar percentage commitment would be made this year.

He said the bank goes into the final decade of this century in strong shape.

"There is a new momentum to our operational work today," he said.

Meanwhile Mexico's programme to stabilise its economy and resume growth will be assisted by the World Bank through three loans of \$500 million each. The quick-disbursing loans will support reforms in the financial, industrial and public enterprise sectors.

The World Bank has agreed

that the Mexican government could use as much as \$125 million each loan (totalling as much as \$375 million) for debt-reduction purposes in accordance with the bank's guidelines for debt-reduction programmes. This agreement will require the approval of the bank's executive directors.

A major portion of the loans is expected to be disbursed within the next 12 months, depending on the Mexican government's progress in carrying out economic reforms.

A \$500 million loan to Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior will support reforms in the financial sector and help the government implement policies that are conducive to stabilising the economy and resuming growth.

But sudden death is not confined to stressed-out executives. Various reports show such deaths occur among taxi drivers, teachers, journalists, salesmen and maintenance workers.

A hotline set up by a lawyers' group to handle inquiries from families of men who suffered premature, sudden deaths estimates as many as 600 Japanese may have died of overwork last year.

In Japan, where time spent on the job and personal sacrifice are viewed as key measures of company loyalty, the temptation to overwork is overwhelming, says Hiroshi Kawahito, a lawyer associated with the hotline.

"People feel companies are more important than their individual rights and they're praised by the company if they work hard. Their pay and position depend on it," he said.

Families of the victims are usually unprepared to cope with the loss of a breadwinner.

Sudden death a growing problem among overworked Japanese

TOKYO, July 2, (AP): It's called "karoshi" — death from overwork — or "porkuri byo" — sudden death. The number of such deaths among married Japanese businessmen is growing at an alarming rate, researchers say.

Victims share a common pattern: fatal heart attacks or strokes after months or even years of extra-long working hours under heavy stress, says Dr Kiyoyasu Arikawa, who advises executives how to reduce their risk.

Arikawa found that sudden deaths among top executives soared in the past 20 years, from 10 in 1969 to about 130 in 1987. Recently, he says, the number of such deaths has grown fastest among those in their 40s and 50s — men who on average could expect to live to about 79.

The risks of Japan's competitive work world were highlighted by the sudden deaths in the past two years of several prominent men in their 40s, including publishing executive Koremichi Noma, trading company president Hirotoshi Inui, Fanuc Co.

president Nobuo Hanaoka and chairman of the Mass Media group Fuji Sankai, Haruo Shikama.

"Porkuri byo" is a real concern among the businessmen I know," said Mitsuya Goto, a former Nissan Motor Co. executive who now heads an international exchange centre.

"They're all pretty concerned about it."

Arikawa runs a clinic in a skyscraper in downtown Tokyo where he advises top executives on how to minimize damage from their stress-laden careers.

He says competition and stress permeate the lives of overworked victims, coupled with poor health habits attributable mostly to their busy work schedules.

"These people have no psychological or physical space or time for themselves," the physician says. "It's not so much that they love to work, but they feel company loyalty demands that their whole life be work."

"Mental stress, business stress and private problems accumulate until the body just can't

take any more," he adds.

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US factory orders tumble

WASHINGTON, July 2, (AP): Orders to US factories for manufactured goods tumbled 2.5 per cent in May, the steepest drop in 10 months, the government reported on Friday, providing more evidence of an economy weakened by high interest rates.

"The big decline indicates the economy is slowing more sharply than expected and underlines that the Federal Reserve must actively move to lower interest rates," said Jerry Jasinski, chief economist for the National Association of Manufacturers.

"We're at a point now, where the slowdown may get away from us if the Fed doesn't respond soon," Jasinski said.

The Commerce Department reported the decline in orders for both durable and non-durable goods to a seasonally adjusted \$23.4 billion last month was the steepest falloff since orders dropped 3.6 per cent in July 1988.

Until recently, interest rates had been rising as a result of the Fed's efforts to restrain inflation by tightening credit. The downturn in factory orders, last month reflected other reports recently of a

slowing economy.

Most analysts believe that the Fed is steering the economy to a so-called soft landing, rather than a recession, and there already have been signs it is easing its grip on credit.

"I don't think that we're heading for anything like a recession," said Robert Brusca, chief financial economist for Nikko Securities Co. International Inc. in New York. "I think we may have something like that coming our way by the end of next year, but not for the moment."

Taking exception to the soft-landing theory was Bruce Steinberg of Merrill Lynch capital markets in New York, who said: "The one area of real strength has been the industrial sector, and that's really softening up."

"I think there will be a recession the second half of the year," he said.

Orders for durable goods, big-ticket items expected to last more than three years, represented virtually all of the May decline. They were off 4.5 per cent to \$12.3 billion, even worse than a preliminary report last week that they had fallen 4.2 per cent.

AMMAN				KUWAIT						
	OPNG	CLSG		BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.62	2.60		-NATIONAL BANK	0.980					
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.17	2.17		-GULF BANK	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	120000	3
ARAB BANK	164.5	165.0		-COMMERCIAL BK	0.270					
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.54	4.54		-AHLI BANK	0.305	0.300	0.300	0.300	10000	1
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.95	1.88		-B.K.M.E.	0.335					
ARAB INSURANCE	1.10	1.08		-K.R.E.B.	0.330					
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.70	0.68		-BURGAN BANK	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.260	10000	1
ARAB INT. INTER INS	1.11	1.16		-K.F.HOUSE	0.470	0.465	0.465	0.465	20000	1
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.29	1.27		-INVESTMENT CO.						
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.37	2.40		-KUT INV. CO.	0.099					
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD	0.35	0.34		-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210					
ARAB PHARMA/HAF.	3.58	3.54		-K.I.T.C.	0.064					
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	1.80	1.80		-CON.FACILITIES	0.430					
ARAB POTASH CO.				-AHILAN INV.	0.000					
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65		-I.F.A.	0.043					
BANK OF JORDAN	15.05	15.10		-INV. PEARL KWT	0.090					
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.29	1.26		-NATIONAL INV.	0.066					
BELGIUM INSURANCE	0.95	1.00		-KWT PROJECTS	0.081	0.080	0.080	0.080	40000	1
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00		INSURANCE SECTOR						
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25		-KWT INSURANCE	0.600					
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.34	0.34		-GULF INSURANCE	0.340					
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.70	2.70		-ANLIA INS. CO.	0.480					
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.80	0.80		-WARBA INS. CO.	0.340					
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71		REAL EST SECTOR						
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.50	4.50		-KWT R. EST. CO.	0.132					
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63		-UNI R. EST. CO.	0.052					
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25		-NAT R. EST. CO.	0.180					
GENERAL WINNING	2.10	2.10		-SALHTAN R.E.	0.080					
HIMEX MINERALS	0.75	0.75		-KWT R.E.I.COM	0.000					
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44		INDUSTRY SECTOR						
IND. MATCH JENCO	1.07	1.07		-NAT IND. CO.	0.490					
INDSTR. DEVLPT BHK	1.63	1.70		-KUT M.P. IND.	0.310					
INDSTRIL/COM/AGR.	1.79	1.70		-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.170					
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75		-REF. IND. CO.	0.360					
INTERN.COM/INV	0.13	0.13		-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000					
IRBTD ELECTRICITY	0.81	0.81		-GULF CABLE	0.980					
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64		-K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.166					
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	2.18	2.16		-CONT.MARINE	0.300					
J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80		-K.SH.REP.CO.	0.045					
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29		SERVICES SECTOR						
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.50	19.50		-OVERLAND TRANS	0.082					
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.22	2.20		-K.N.C. CO.	0.180					
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05		-KUT HOTELS CO.	0.000					
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.44	1.45		-P.WAREHOUSING	0.140	0.142	0.142	0.142	80000	3
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22		-COM.MKT.CMXP.	0.082					
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.03	1.03		-MOBILE TELE.	0.295	0.295	0.295	0.295	660000	8
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.18	2.18		-KWT COMPUTER	0.144					
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.30	2.45		FOOD SECTOR						
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20		-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.150					
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83		-UNTD FISHERIES	0.150					
JOR LIM BRICK	0.16	0.16		-UNTD POULTRY	0.250					
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50		-KUT FOODS	0.300					
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.47	2.45		-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150					
JOR PAPER CARDBRGS	4.00	4.02		NON-KUT SECTOR						
JOR PHOSPHATE-MINS	4.10	4.10		-BHN.INTER.BK	0.063					
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	2.25	2.26		-BHN.M.EAST.BK	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	80000	1
JOR PRESS/PUBLISHT	1.79	1.72		-COAST INVEST.	0.082					
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.25		-A.G.INV.GROP.	0.029					
JOR ROCK MOOL IND.	1.24	1.22		-FIRTH.GULF BK	0.850					
JOR SECURITY CORP	1.12	1.11		-BHN.KUW.GROP	0.078					
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.28	2.25		-GULF MEDICAL	0.034					
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.80	2.77		KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
JOR WORSTED NLL	4.79	4.75		COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL						
JOR KUWAIT AGR	0.88	0.90		FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	MARKET			
JOR PETROLIUM REF	7.94	7.91		GULF INTL INS.	0.000					
JOR.FRENCH INS.	2.81	2.85		ARAB INT CO.	0.000					
JOR INV.FIN.CORP	2.42	2.42		SHARJAH INS	0.000					
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.35	0.35		GULF UNION INS.	0.000					
JORDAN DAIRY	1.15	1.14		R.K.WHITE CMW	0.000					
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.10	1.10		AKJAN CEMENT	0.000					
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95		INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
JORDAN INSURANCE	3.30	3.25		B-FUJAIRAH CEMT	0.000					
JORDAN ISLAMIC BAK	2.34	2.32		C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010					
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.46	1.45		D-GULF CEMENT	0.010					
JORDAN TANNING	1.95	1.95								

Dolly to adopt kids and new lifestyle

Dolly Parton: no regrets

By Judy Byrne

INDESTRUCTIBLE Dolly Parton is starting out again with a whole new agenda. She plans to start a family.

The once-barefoot poor-white kid who set out from America's hillbilly country to conquer the world of entertainment is changing her lifestyle.

With her famous fabulous figure in sparkling new shape, 43-year-old Dolly has gone back to her 45-year-old husband, Carl Dean, after years of long working separations. And the decision to have a family is a joint one.

Dolly, who cannot have children, says she wants to adopt two or possibly three.

As a recently as late last year, insiders were expecting fed-up Carl to file for divorce from the wife who, according to one relative, had not been home since Thanksgiving the year before.

Dolly had been fighting her way through a mid-life crisis which brought her to the brink of suicide.

Only her dog, Popeye, pulled her back from the edge.

Star-strangled Dolly says: "It proves that no matter how positive you are, how lucky you seem to be, there are times in everybody's life when they are really all the way down. I had a lot of health problems. I was on medication."

"There were personal troubles, family worries, and heartache. I was overweight..."

She found herself seriously contemplating the gun she keeps for defence against burglars. "This is where people get the idea of suicide," she says. "Guns around the house and people sorrowin'."

"Just as I picked up the gun, little Popeye came running up the stairs and hearing him jolted me back to reality."

"I don't know if I would have done it. But for the first time I understood how people can kill themselves. I put the gun down and prayed."

The near-miss with the next life started Dolly on a whole lot of thinking about this one. When she finished figuring she went into action.

Her figure was first on the hit list. Years on the road and a fondness for cocktails and junk food had piled pounds on her hourglass shape. At her best, Dolly had a 17-inch waist. At her worst, she measured more around each thigh.

Depressed

Besides making her depressed the excess weight was leaving her breathless and hoarse. When she finally started losing it, she did not want to stop. She took off four stone (25kg) — making her mother and half America believe she had turned anorexic.

In the end, Dolly put her mother's mind at rest by going home to Nashville, Tennessee and working her way through so much of mom's home cooking that she put back 10lb. "I had to prove to mother that I wasn't sick. But I hated it," she says.

Now, she is back on her six small meals a day formula for successful slimming, determined not to get fat ever again.

It is a problem she could scarcely have imagined in her poverty-stricken childhood, as one of 12 brothers and sisters sleeping three and four to a bed in a two-roomed mountain shack. Her father made moonshine liquor for extra cash and a chicken was a special Sunday treat.

There was no electricity, radio, television, or inside lavatory in Dolly's childhood home. School was a long, long walk away. And Dolly Parton first saw bed sheets on the stretcher that carried her mother to an ambulance, the day she miscarried.

Today, Dolly owns homes in Hawaii, New York, Los Angeles, and two in her native Nashville. The closest one to her ideal is the one in East Tennessee modelled on Tarzan Gone With The Wind. It has 41 rooms and no shortage of sheets.

Dolly has another luxury home. It is a home on wheels for spells on the road, a vast silver barge of a bus with suede walls, a stained-glass yellow butterfly in the ceiling and a picture of the shack at Locust Ridge Hollow on one wall, just to remind her.

Her mother says Dolly sang before she even talked. She wrote her first song at the age of five. Her escape from the harsh gracelessness of her early life was into fantasy. She made up stories in her head and acted them out in the fields.

She tells you: "My childhood was really special. It was rich in feeling and love. You're only poor if you choose to be. Money ain't the only thing that makes you rich — but it sure helps when you want to go shopping."

The day after she graduated from school, Dolly packed all she owned into two brown paper bags and quit the hillbilly backwater where she was raised to head for the centre of country music, Nashville. She was ready to act out her most urgent fantasy of all.

"I was born with a gift for music," she says. "I realised music was a way out of having to be poor for the rest of my life. I'm not even the most talented member of my family. But I am the one with grit."

Her first visit to the local Wishy Washy Laundromat — the first she had ever seen — was a date with destiny. As she strolled up and down outside waiting for her clothes to dry, asphalt worker Carl Dean drove by.

She says: "He hollered at me. I waved back. We talked and had our first date at his parents' house a week later. He told his mother 'Fix this girl a plate. She's starved to death — and she is the girl I'm going to marry.'"

Dolly (born Rebecca) Parton can stand back now and look at her public image with professional detachment. "I look on it just like a ventriloquist looks on his dummy," she says. Yet she admits her star image was only part — calculated. The rest grew out of her deprived childhood.

The only glamour she saw in her early years was the local whores, she says. Their style was still in her head when she set about marketing the natural assets she brought with her to Nashville — talent, determination, a handsomeness, and a beautifully developed, look-alike-boy's bust.

"I became Mother Goose, Cinderella, and Liberace rolled into one," she confesses. "It worked as a gimmick because it was the fantasy of a whole lot of people. It worked for me because I was one of them. I feel the dazzle on the inside."

The big-time eluded Dolly until she teamed up with another country singer, Porter Wagoner. Seven years later, she went solo again and became the darling of the country fans. But success was not paying off as she expected.

"My biggest hit, *Jolene*, sold only 60,000 copies," she says. "I was making two and a half thousand dollars a night. But out of that I had to pay for my bus, gas, the band, the costumes, and everything."

A few months later, she had a one-million seller hit with *Here We Come Again*. To the wrath of the country purists, she had crossed the great divide over into the pop charts. But there was no holding her now.

With her tiny figure, accentuated by teeter-high heels and mile-high wigs, one very shrewd cookie was on her way. Anyone who mistook the illusion for reality had walked right into her trap.

"Sometimes I let people think they are getting away with something," she says. "The head of an empire now worth around \$500 million, 'just for the fun of it. They judge me by the way I look. They think I'm just a dumb hick..."

Dumb she is not. Besides the enormous song-writing, performing and business talent, Dolly Parton made a successful second gear change with the film, *Nine to Five*, in which she co-starred with Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin.

"I don't ever expect to be poor again," she admits.

But there have been downers. Making that epic *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* was a nightmare. Squabbling on the set coincided with her low-feelings from major surgery. She enjoyed making *Rhinestone* with Sylvester Stallone but it died at the book office.

There have also been stresses and strains on the disappointingly childless marriage. Dolly refuses to admit have been in less-than-100-per cent working order.



Dolly Parton: "Money ain't the only thing that makes you rich — but it sure helps when you want to go shopping."

You're slimed!

By Bruce Olson

NEW YORK, (Reuters): It is the Ghostbusters' toughest job — rid New York of evil spirits and give troubled Columbia Pictures a much-needed financial lift after a string of box office flops.

Ghostbusters, a \$33-million sequel to the biggest comedy hit film of all time, has opened in the United States, complete with a fresh batch of slime, a walking Statue of Liberty and a demon who haunts a painting in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

It is a movie about the power of positive energy, about good vibes — and if Columbia Pictures can approach the \$220 million the original brought to box offices in 1984, the good vibes will belong to Dawn Steel, the president of the studio and Ivan Reitman, the film's producer and director.

Steel has run the studio since 1987 and Reitman directed the original. They persuaded Bill Murray to join Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Ernie Hudson, Sigourney Weaver, Rick Moranis and Annie Potts to return to the business of removing supernatural forces from New York City.

In a summer filled with movie sequels, they are hoping *Ghostbusters II* will be able to mow down the competing "Roman numerals" around the country.

For Columbia, it is no ordinary sequel. The studio has been plagued with flops — *Punchline*, *True Believer* and *Things Film* — probably the most important, eagerly awaited sequel in the history of Columbia Pictures.

Ghostbusters II was screened in New York in the first week of June and the reaction of the packed house was as positive as the power of the Ghostbusters to rid the Big Apple of its "river of slime."

Critics seemed lukewarm, but there is no doubt the movie will appeal to a legion of seven- to 12-year-olds who run around their living rooms yelling "you're slimed" at their parents.

It will also surely bring in multitudes of 35- to 45-year-olds, who see Murray and Aykroyd as the hip comic spokesmen of a generation.

The plot of the movie evolved after all the major players from the first movie agreed to do the sequel.

"We all saw the negatives of making the sequel, but we remembered how much fun the original was," Murray said. "So we decided to spin these guys out one more time."

The setting is again New York and — more than in the first film — New York is a character in the movie.

Reitman, producer of many comic hits including *Stripes* and *Twins* said: "The gimmick is 'what if New Yorkers were told they would die if they weren't nice to each other for 48 hours?'"

"We all agree the city is more and more difficult to live in. The things one expects from modern, civilised life are crumbling."

The film was shot in just 12 weeks, beginning last December.

"We use our judgement of what we think is funny and that's been a safe barometer. We're sometimes wrong but not too often," Reitman said.

"There is very little improvisation," said Ramis, who wrote the *Ghostbusters II* screenplay with Aykroyd.

"We don't ad-lib. We work in a way that is carefully planned to remain spontaneous...we've had the philosophy that if you try to make everybody else look good, then you wind up looking good," he added.

In the film a river of pink slime runs under the city, fed by the evil vibrations of New Yorkers and by Vigo the Carpathian, an evil spirit from the 16th century who inhabits a painting in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

When the slime builds up and the Carpathian is on the move, "Who you gonna call?" — as the Ghostbusters theme song says.

The Ghostbusters' battle with the slime is almost as heroic as the filmmakers' efforts to make 100,000 gallons (380,000 litres) of the goopy stuff.



The ghostbusters make ends meet by entertaining at children's parties until supernatural forces once again threaten New York.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith

SOCIAL CLUB

THEY'VE GOT A DANCE ON NEXT WEEK. PEE WILL YOU TAKE ME?

WHAT'S THE POINT? YOU KNOW I CAN'T DANCE

I'VE GIVEN YOU A FEW LESSONS — I MUST HAVE TAUGHT YOU SOMETHING

YOU DID. YOU TAUGHT ME I CAN'T DANCE

SURET? CLOSED

From queen to princess

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Grace Kelly may have been the only woman in this century, who retrogressed from queen to princess.

From movie queen to Princess of Monaco, anyhow.

As a reigning queen of the silver screen, Kelly had millions of subjects around the world. After marrying Prince Rainier III, she became princess to some 25,000 Monegasques.

But her marriage in 1956 immortalized the regal Philadelphia Irish beauty beyond the wildest dreams of any actress, past or present. It was a real life role that surpassed any she ever played in front of a camera.

The saga of Kelly's courtship, wedding and family life is chronicled in *The Bridesmaids*, a book by Judith Balaban Quine, who was one of Kelly's six attendants at her storybook wedding.

The exhaustively researched book is more than a simple biography. It also tells the stories of the bridesmaids, providing a cavalcade of the 1950s from the perspective of a very affluent, very "in," very spoiled segment of the East Coast gentry class.

Quine, daughter of Paramount's longtime Sachem Barney Balaban, knew the behind-the-scenes antics of film-dom's royalty and her book is rife with famous movie names and anecdotes.

Because Quine remained a confidante of Kelly's until her death in 1982 in an automobile crash, the author reveals some heretofore unknown elements of Kelly's life. But Quine is no tattletale and there are no scandals disclosed.

Along the way there are surprising stories about Quine's engagement to Montgomery Clift, hiding Marilyn Monroe from the media, Marlon Brando escaping in a crowd on the floor of her automobile on Quine's wedding day.

Quine came to know Kelly through her first husband, Jay Kanter, who was Kelly's agent for many years.

At lunch recently, Quine said, "Grace represented what we all to be in those days. She was so beautiful, talented, warm and romantic that most women would love to have been in her shoes."

"She had an incoherent image during her years in Hollywood. But of course she was not. There was a whole other part of Grace that I knew and that I write about. She was a paradox."

"She was a very decent, good human being," Quine said. "I'm not a voyeur or a fly on the wall, so I didn't go into details on Grace's personal love life."

The Bridesmaids traces Kelly's friendships — male and female — along with the complexities of her family relationships, film career and her years as the Princess of Monaco.

"In the 1950s it was possible to have close, intimate male-female relationships that didn't involve love-making," Quine said.

"Discussed writing this book with Grace in 1976," she said. "She thought it was a wonderful idea and until the time of her death, she encouraged me to get started."

"I didn't begin work on the book until 1986 when Prince Rainier asked me when I was going to write it. I asked how he knew about it and he said Grace had discussed the subject with him. He thought it was a good idea. He wanted someone who knew her well to write the story."

"So with his encouragement I decided to go ahead. I went off and did six months of interviews with as many of her friends, co-workers and family members as I thought were necessary. The research involved dozens of people."

"I am blessed with a terrific memory, so I called on my own knowledge and experience with Grace."

"The saddest thing about my research was my interview with Rainier. Even four years after her death, he was devastated by her loss. I asked him what regret he felt, and the prince said, 'I just wanted more time with her.'"



Grace Kelly with her family.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

'MORT D' AMOUR' HAS FOUR POSSIBLE CAUSES

QUESTION: I remember, years ago, reading rumours that some famous screen actors had died suddenly during sex. Nowadays, these sudden deaths seem caused more by drugs than sex. Do you believe that those old rumours were true, and if so, what do you think the cause of death really was?

ANSWER: My memory goes back as far as your does, but I don't ever remember any specific medical conditions that were part of those reports and stories. If causes were determined, they never appeared in the press, and I prefer it that way, personally.

Back in 1965, Dr H.A. Heggveit wrote an article in the American Heart Journal in which he coined an interesting name for these occurrences. He called them "mort d'amour," or "death from love." In his article he speculated that there could be four causes of such a death: a sudden increase in blood pressure; a change in the beating of the heart from a normal regular rhythm to an irregular one that failed to pump blood to the body and brain; a failure of sufficient blood to reach the heart, causing ischemia (lack of oxygen), and finally, a rupture of a blood vessel in the brain due to an aneurysm or thinning of the vessel wall. Certainly those conditions could occur and would explain why death struck at that particular moment.

I suppose all those factors still exist, but hopefully, some of the new advances in medical technology are now helping to prevent them from occurring with any great frequency. Tests, such as the stress for cardiac function, and newer techniques in visualizing the arteries of the heart and brain, may be effective in diagnosing these conditions, so that corrective treatment is started, and these tragedies are averted.

There are few things more private than a person's death, and when that moment arrives, I would choose that it not be used to expose an individual's final moments to an insensitive and, perhaps, unfeeling public. So the lack of such reports lately sits fairly well with me, and I hope it continues.

QUESTION: We recently attended a benefit for a charity that was catered by a very reputable firm. However, only hours after the dinner was over, several people were taken to the hospital with food poisoning, but neither my husband nor I fell ill. I know the problem was "toxin poisoning" but can find nothing in my home medical book by that name. Can you provide the explanation I'm seeking?

ANSWER: Although I can't give you all the information requested in your letter, I can help clear up a few points for you. To start with, the ailment is spelled "ptomaine," but even then you won't find any information, since ptomaines are the result of protein decomposition and are perfectly harmless.

Look for your information under "staphylococcal food intoxication" (or "food poisoning, staphylococcal") and you will find all your answers. When certain foods, such as salads using mayonnaise, creamy food dressing, or cream filled pastries, are prepared well ahead of time, and then improperly refrigerated, staph bugs can reproduce rapidly and produce toxins, which in turn cause all the symptoms you listed, such as vomiting, dry heaves and diarrhea. There is no way to detect the tainted food, since it looks and smells normal.

Not all the food may have been prepared at once, or improperly refrigerated, which would explain why not all the guests at the banquet became ill. Be happy that you were among the lucky ones.

1989, Tribune Media Services, Inc.



A Kurd costume exhibit at the Kurdish library in Brooklyn, New York.

Repository for rare books

Kurds in USA keep their culture alive

By Bill Breen

NEW YORK: A three-year-old library in Brooklyn seeks to give back to one of the world's oldest, and now disenfranchised, cultures a small portion of its language, literature, and place names — the stuff of which a culture is made.

The Kurdish Library is situated on the parlor floor of a privately-owned brownstone in a quiet, tree-lined neighbourhood. It is slowly becoming the repository for rare Kurdish books, costumes, and ancient maps, many of which are illegal in the countries that now claim portions of Kurdistan — a mountainous, river-hewn land

that has all but vanished from most modern maps.

Today the name Kurdistan is given only to a province within the borders of Iran, according to the Kurdish Times, a periodical published by the Kurdish Programme. The programme is a privately supported effort to publicize the plight of the Kurds.

Yet for centuries the Kurds have occupied a vast area stretching from the rolling uplands of southeastern Turkey through the dun-coloured mountains of northern Iraq and into western Iran, including small pockets of Syria and the Soviet Union.

"My native tongue is Kurdish, but I never saw a Kurdish book until I came to this country," said

Samande Siaband, an Iranian programme associate at the Kurdish Library. "We are losing our identity as a people. That is why it is so important to have this library."

The Kurdish Library, according to its director, Vera Beaudin Saeedpour, is the only library in the Western hemisphere that is devoted to the Kurdish people.

The Kurds were nomadic herdsmen who have a distinctive history, language, and culture. Warred over since the 7th century, Kurdistan's boundaries were abolished in the aftermath of World War I, when it was divided by the newly created nation states of the Middle East.

The Kurds, who number between 15 million and 20 million and are the fourth-most numerous people of the Middle East, have been rising in uncoordinated revolts since 1925. They have been suppressed by the Iranians and the Turks.

The Kurdish motto, "We have no friends," takes on added poignancy for Kurdish immigrants in the United States, most of whom have settled in New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, and California. Many Kurds here repress their ethnicity out of fear of government retaliation against family members back home, and fear of being denied permission to return to their

native country.

"In a sense, the Kurds here remain prisoners of their country of origin," says Mrs Saeedpour.

The Kurdish population in New York, which unofficial estimates put at 1,500, is so hidden that on several occasions Saeedpour has answered her doorbell to find a Kurdish book in a brown paper wrapper, and the donor nowhere in sight.

Though she is the widow of Hommayoun Saeedpour, a Kurdish scholar who died in 1981, Mrs Saeedpour traces her interest in the Kurdish cause to the history of her own people. She is keenly aware that people have been persecuted simply because of who they are.

In 1981, Mrs Saeedpour established the Kurdish Programme and obtained recognition from Cultural Survival Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving threatened societies. Five years later she found the Kurdish Library.

On a recent morning, six stained-glass windows diffused a low-lying sun, backlighting a large silver samovar centered in the small, elegant library. Enlarged colour photographs of the rugged, rugged land and children, decorate the walls. Alongside the prints are maps dating to 1807 that define the former boundaries of Kurdistan.

Glass cases display musical instruments and flat woven Kilim rugs. Mannequins wear skirts made of hand-loomed goat hair from Turkey, and brocade and velvet dresses from Iran and Iraq.

The library contains more than 1,000 works on Kurdish history and culture written in Kurdish, English, French, and German. Many of the books were smuggled out of the Middle East.

Among them is the only alphabet book published in northern Kurdistan — most of the copies were confiscated by Turkish authorities and its author was imprisoned for four months; and "Scharif Naneh," a rare history of the Kurds written by a Kurd.

The library, open by appointment, is used by scholars, journalists, and Kurds who want to keep their culture alive for their immigrant families. Accordingly, the Kurdish Library is initiating an educational programme for children so that they "may learn their Kurdish," said Saeedpour, "without a shroud of secrecy and shame."

1989, The Christian Science Monitor.



Angkor Wat: symbol of Cambodian Buddhism and a culture that goes back millennia. After years of neglect they are in very poor condition

International community to the rescue

Monuments in distress

By Denis D. Gray

ANGKOR, Cambodia, (AP): With the shadows of war receding from ancient Angkor, the international community is poised to rescue some of civilization's greatest artistic achievements from decay.

Hundreds of Hindu and Buddhist edifices in the Angkor area, dating from the 9th through the 12th centuries, have been invaded by jungle growth, monsoon rains and thieves as armies clashed around them over the past two decades.

India, the only non-communist nation to recognize the pro-Hanoi government in Phnom Penh, already is restoring the colossal and crowning jewel, Angkor Wat, but hundreds of other temples and architectural relics from Cambodia's golden age remain untouched.

Security has been a major problem in recent years, with the Khmer Rouge and other anti-government guerrillas within striking distance of Angkor. And diplomatic isolation of the Phnom Penh government has prevented most international assistance.

While the guerrillas remain a potential threat, hopes have been rising this year that a peaceful political solution may be reached following the promised withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia in September.

"We are waiting for the first available opportunity to restore the magnificent monuments," said Mahfuz Anam, regional spokesman for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

"UNESCO's director general is hopeful of a political solution."

Although it is restricted in working with the

Phnom Penh government, which the United Nations does not recognize, UNESCO last month quietly dispatched two experts for a preliminary, on-site diagnosis of Angkor's ills.

Sources say UNESCO may help organize an international symposium on Angkor and eventually launch a world-wide fund-raising campaign such as those which helped resurrect Egypt's pyramids, Indonesia's Borobudur temple and the ancient North African city of Carthage.

"Everyone wants to get involved in Angkor," said one Western aid official in Phnom Penh.

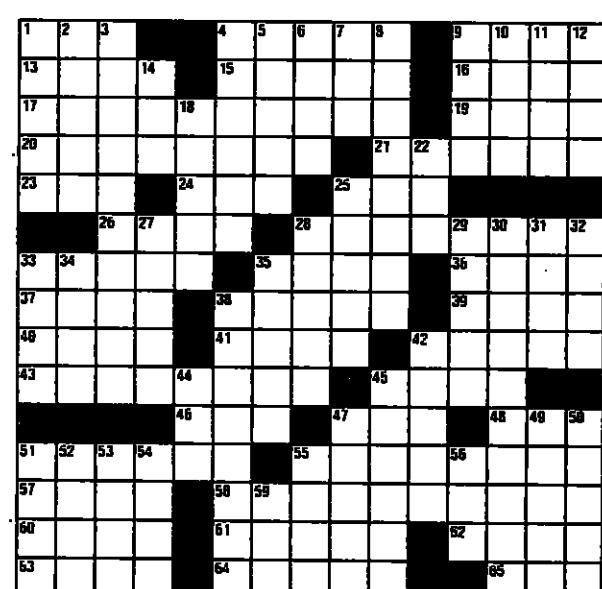
Ung Von, who heads Cambodia's conservation effort here, said the Poles will arrive late this year to begin work on the Bayon, an intricate, 800-year-old shrine of mysterious galleries and 54 stone towers sculpted with the faces of smiling deities.

The wondrous structure now is looked after by two old sweepers and guarded by two teen-age policemen. Its eastern gate caved in like a deck of cards several years ago; green algae and white fungi mar its friezes of ancient battles and court life.

The French, who hacked Angkor out of the jungle in the last century and became its most expert overseers, refuse to provide valuable archival material to Phnom Penh but have asked to restore Angkor's 11th century Baphuon Temple, Ung Von said in an interview.

The Indians are midway through their six-year, 10-million-dollar project to renew Angkor Wat, a massive representation of the Hindu cosmos in stone which rises in three successive flights to five central towers that have become the symbol of Cambodia.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Asian holiday
 - Cut
 - 50%
 - Kane's
 - island
 - Pen
 - French friend
 - Apprehension
 - Roll call answer
 - Interlaces
 - Earth, for one
 - Do — say
 - Aunt or uncle
 - Abbr.
 - Sri Lanka
 - export
 - Fluff
 - Authoritative commands
 - Beat
 - Toll road
 - "OI — I Sing
 - Seed coating
 - Lent a hand
 - Wish you — here
 - "The African Queen" script writer
 - Work out
 - domo
 - Speaks out again
 - Mutual lead-in
 - Weed out
 - US-Can. border canals
 - Much-used article
 - Under wraps
 - Ebullient
 - Field unit
 - Apprehension
 - Mets' stadium
 - Skipper of the "Golden Hind"
 - Gaelic
 - Weeded
 - Assuaged
 - Recital piece, for short

- DOWN
- Mural decoration in old
 - Rome
 - Yields
 - Apprehension
 - In a — (agitated)
 - Staggering
 - Takes the blue ribbon
 - Inclusive abbr.
 - Dressed
 - Strong tie-hee
 - So be it!
 - Italian money
 - Parts of yards
 - Take for a ride
 - Madrieno's meat
 - Youngster
 - Spoken for
 - Ait
 - "Golden" king
 - "World —" PBS series
 - Apprehension
 - Architect
 - ESP
 - practitioner
 - Former TV host
 - Jack
 - Prod to action
 - Stacked
 - Talent
 - Native of New Zealand
 - Exist
 - Unflappable
 - "I — as a child..."
 - its capital was Darmstadt
 - A Ford
 - Obi
 - Repeat
 - Algonquian
 - Well —; literate
 - Big rollers?
 - Like: Suffix
 - Blue Eagle org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BEAD GILA ELSE
PANE ARUBA LENA
ORAL RALLY AGOG
ELLER QUEEN IRE
OTC ESTER
DOGEAR PUP
EMO ERA ARISES
MAUREN MCGOVERN
INSETS PEA LIJ
SHE SENTIENT
MUFTI INN
ANI CORETAKING
MIND DUCHY ETAL
BOER ETHAN RIPE
ANDY HONE SCIAN

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ J8 ♥ K107 ♦ K93 ♣ 10542
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ 1 ♠ ?

What action do you take?
A.—Had East passed, you would have raised to two hearts, so there's no reason why you should not take the same action now. The trouble with passing is that a spade raise by West could force you to guess at an uncomfortable level. As a rule, it is much safer to compete immediately when you have a fit for partner's suit and marginal values.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ QJ104 ♥ 6 ♦ AQ105 ♣ A63
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♥ Pass Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Even though you have an excellent diamond suit with 100 honors, don't lose sight of the overall campaign. If you overcall two diamonds, that could end the auction when partner could have enough for your side to make game in spades. Double, to see what he has to say.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ KQJ9762 ♥ AQ ♦ K ♣ AKQ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—We don't know how this one sneaked in here—after partner's positive response it's too easy. If ever there was a hand for Blackwood, this is it. Bid four no trump.

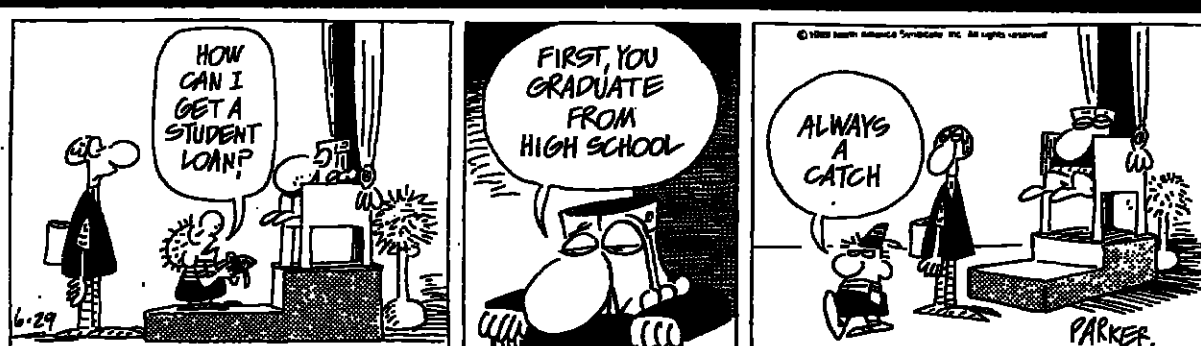
Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ KQJ9762 ♥ AQ ♦ K ♣ AKQ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Since your losing heart can be discarded on dummy's ace of diamonds, you can count all 13 tricks. Take a demerit, however, if you elected to bid seven spades—a ruff on opening lead could prove your undoing. When you can count all the tricks without needing any ruffs, bid seven no trump.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQ762 ♥ Q9 ♦ J107 ♣ 876
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—A borderline hand, but with good five-card support for partner's major, it usually pays to be aggressive. Jump to three spades. The fact that partner is known to have a broken suit makes it more likely that he has not made a light opening bid in third seat.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KJ5 ♥ A632 ♦ K87 ♣ QJ3
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?
A.—We do not recommend suppressing a four-card major in favor of jumping to two no trump, but this type of hand is the exception. Our major suit is weak and our hand is perfectly balanced. Bid two no trump.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will be able to overcome an obstacle only if you persevere. And you should not think that there is no point in doing so: only if you do so think is there not. Leave yourself with an alternative. Be generous.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
You will not feel like doing very much and you must do your best to overcome the feeling. Try to have a good laugh at yourself. Make sure you do not break a promise. Be attentive.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
Take care that your diet contains enough vitamins, and not too much sugar. Avoid spending as if money were as plentiful as air. Avoid wasting time and energy. Be reliable.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)
You must not forget to keep a promise you have made. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 26. This is not your lucky day so avoid gambling. Take much better care of your health. Be benevolent.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)
If you try to use force where persuasion has failed you will make a little more progress. Everything seems to take longer so there is no time to linger. You should not allow yourself to get bogged down in detail. Be cordial.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
You will not be quite sure of yourself and should not act on the spur of the moment. Do not take everything quite so seriously, but that does not mean being frivolous.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
You will have to have the courage of your convictions. Make sure you do not try to solve a new problem by means of old-fashioned methods. Do something your partner will appreciate. Be moderate.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You will find a better way of doing something you have to do often. Your intuition is likely to let you down so do not rely on it. You will tend to be forgetful so do not hesitate to make notes. Be forthcoming.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)
Avoid doing things superficially if you do only have to repeat them. Something you have promised to do will turn out to cause you some difficulties, but do keep your promise. Avoid saying one thing and then doing another.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
You will be better able to deal with a personal matter. You have every reason to have more faith in yourself. If you do a friend a favor he will be more than grateful. Be patient.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
Something which you started some time ago will at last begin to show results. Keep your head high and your wits about you. Avoid taking risks with your health. Be conciliatory.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
You will have to have the courage of your convictions. Make sure you do not try to solve a new problem by means of old-fashioned methods. Do something your partner will appreciate. Be moderate.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION For Rent

SALWA, 3 floors of a villa each floor consisting of 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, dining room and kitchen. Tele. 2629484.

JABRIYA, behind Bahrain embassy near Indian school, CAC flat deluxe, with 3 bedrooms, hall, saloon, 2 bathrooms and kitchen. Tele. 2406525, 2406524.

QURTUBA, small villa, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fitted kitchen, servants room, garden. European family preferred. Rent KD450 including water & electricity. Tele. 5324848.

Available

DASMA, Area 1, Road 18, House 4, rooms available for families only. Reasonable rent. Tele. Mr. Nadir, 2403097, 2527235.

SALMIYA, near the Indian K.G. School, one room for two bachelors, couple or spinsters to share with an Indian family. Tele. Vinod Sharma, 5611539, 10 am - 1 pm, 5 - 9 pm.

FARIWANIYA, behind Holiday Inn, for 1/2 working ladies or bachelors to share with an Indian family. Tele. 2406535.

SHARO, a separate room for a bachelor with an Indian family, opp. KFTIC. Rent KD 55. Tele. 2402018, 1.30 - 5.30 pm & 8.30 - 10.30 pm.

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NAME CHANGE

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Miscellaneous

BBC language course for children/beginners, French and Spanish. KD15 each, KD25 for both including video/audio tape and manual. Tele. David Taylor, 5330690 after 4 pm.

NIKON camera accessories in excellent condition. Tele. 2422154, 11 am - 2 pm.

Cars

PONTIAC Grand Prix 1981, beige brown, in excellent condition. KD1000. Tele. 2422154, 11 am - 2 pm.

CHEVROLET-sprint-1986, silver colour, 4-door, lift-back, automatic, all options, KD 1000, ono cash. Tele. 5638917, 8 am - 12 noon, 4 - 8 pm.

MAZDA 929 GLX 1988, 4-door, CAC, fully automatic, sunroof, maroon, 12,000 kms, one owner insured up to Oct 1991. KD3,300. KD300 - down payment. KD100 - per month for 3 years. Tele. 2401908.

MERCEDES 230E, 1988, 12,000 km, lady owner, showroom condition, pearl grey metallic, sunroof. Contact Tele. 4812405, after 4 pm, 5753894, after 6 pm.

GALANT, 1986, black, super-saloon, insured till May 1990, in very good condition. KD1,780 Cash. KD1,200. Installments balance KD580 at KD 27 per month. Tele. 3801173 after 6 pm.

DELOREAN, model 1982, in very good condition. Tele. Adel/Fadel, 5632724.

GALANT model-80, manual with AC in good condition insured till June '90 KD340. Tele. Abdul Qayum, 4844922, 8 am - 1 pm, 3 - 8 pm.

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Vacant

2 MAIDS required, Filipino, domestic, helper, preferably finished contract. Tele. Mr. Cesar S. Ramirez, Res. 4314233, 3 - 10 pm. (AT1-48148-3)

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HAWALLY to Sabhan and back, office timings, 7 am to 2 pm. Tele. Wilson, 2620317 (res), 2437200 (off)

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ACCOUNTANCY, higher secondary, given by an experienced teacher, 3 times a week, in Maidan Hawally. Tele. Justin Bright, 2460609, 8 am - 1 pm, 4 - 7 pm.

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SPORTS

De Walle returns to take Austrian title

LEONINGTON, Austria, July 2, (Reuters): Robert van de Walle, Belgium's former Olympic light-heavyweight judo champion, came out of retirement with a surprise victory over current Olympic title-holder Miguel Azeiteiro of Brazil in the final of the Austrian Open yesterday.

Van de Walle, 35, who won the Olympic title in 1980 and a succession of medals in virtually every world and European cham-

pionship following that, had retired after taking the bronze medal in Seoul.

He returned to training only three weeks ago and shed 15 kilos in order to make the light-heavyweight limit.

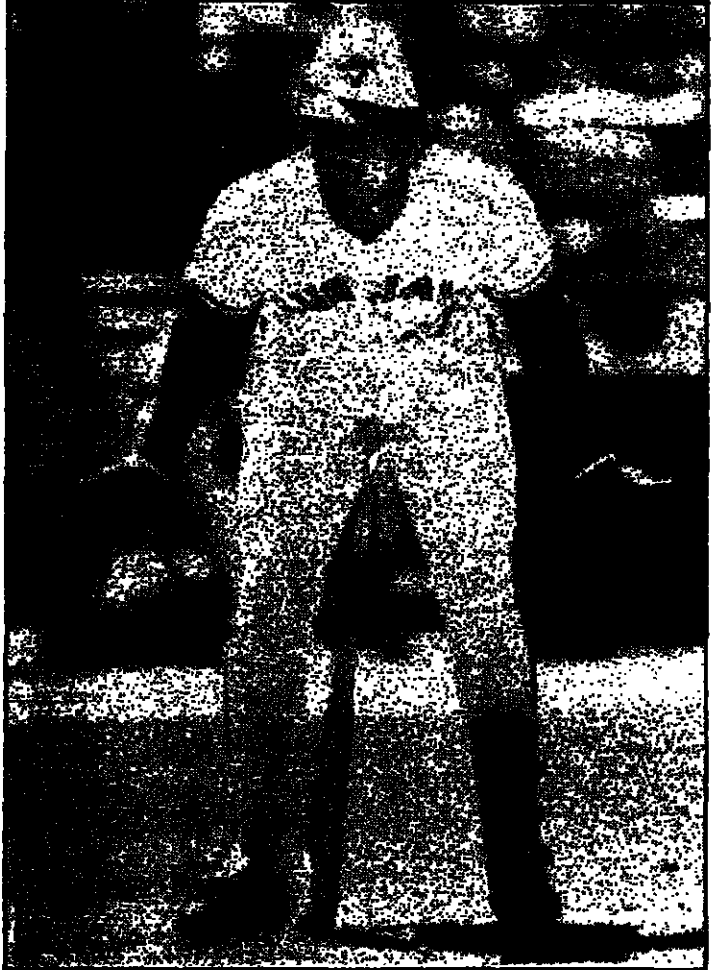
Van de Walle's reappearance came as a total surprise even though the world title is the one major honour which has eluded the indomitable Belgian and the world championships are just four months away.

"I had some months free before my new training centre in Belgium will open and I still feel well and strong," Van de Walle said. "I still want to compete and why not?"

His victory was unexpected nevertheless. To get the final he had to beat some top judokas, including Britain's Dennis Stewart, the other bronze medal winner in Seoul and East Germany's Jen Geisler. He defeated both easily.

Reds brush aside Mets

Red Sox overcome Blue Jays



Blue Jays' George Bell gestures towards the Red Sox bench after asking the umpire to remove gold chains hanging around the neck of Red Sox pitcher Eric Metzel. (Reuters wirephoto)

CINCINNATI, Ohio, July 2, (AP): Dwight Gooden allowed solo homers to Barry Larkin and Kai Daniels before leaving the game in the third inning with a sore right arm yesterday as the Cincinnati Reds beat the New York Mets 6-2.

Mets spokesman Jay Horwitz said Gooden would officially be placed on the disabled list today and the club would recall right-hander Kevin Tapani from the Minor Leagues.

Gooden, 24, pitched two-plus innings before leaving with what was diagnosed as sore muscles in the area of his right armpit. He has complained of stiffness in the area for the last month.

"I hate to do it. It's like cutting off your right arm," Mets manager Davey Johnson said of putting Gooden on the disabled list. "But it's the most prudent thing to do."

Dodgers 1, Pirates 0

Jose Gonzalez' sharp grounder bounced off second baseman Jose Lind for a single to score Eddie Murray with two outs in the ninth inning to lift Los Angeles past Pittsburgh, snapping the Pirates' six-game winning streak.

With one out, Murray singled off starter John Smiley, 7-2, and went to second on a walk to Mike Marshall. After Jeff Hamilton popped out to second, Gonzalez, who is 14-for-31, extended his hitting streak to 10 games with his single on an 0-2 pitch.

Red Sox 3, Blue Jays 1

Eric Hetzel allowed three hits

and no runs in 5.2-3 innings in his Major-League debut and Mike Greenwell homered. Hetzel struck out four and walked four as the Boston Red Sox beat the Toronto Blue Jays won their third straight game.

Athletics 6, Indians 4

Rickey Henderson's broken-bat pinch single scored two runs and snapped a 3-3 tie in the sixth inning. Henderson batted for Mike Gallego with runners at first and third and one out in the sixth. He blooped a pitch from Rich Yett into centre field to score Glenn Hubbard.

Angels 6, Twins 1

Chili Davis homered twice, once from each side of the plate, and Tony Armas homered once as they continued their hot hitting against Minnesota and led California to its seventh victory in eight games.

With Davis going 6-for-13 with three home runs and five RBIs and Armas going 7-for-12 with two homers and four RBIs, California has outscored Minnesota .23-6 in the first three games of the four-game series.

Results	
American League	
Boston	6
Chicago	6
Oakland	6
New York	5
Baltimore	6
California	6
Texas	1
National League	
Cincinnati	6
Los Angeles	1
Chicago	3
St. Louis	9
Philadelphia	4
Houston	4
Toronto	1
Kansas City	4
Cleveland	1
Milwaukee	4
Detroit	0
Minnesota	0
Seattle	0
New York	2
Pittsburgh	0
San Francisco	2
San Diego	0
Atlanta	2
Montreal	1

England name side for Test

LONDON, July 2, (Reuters): Ian Botham returns to England's struggling cricket squad for the third Test against Australia at Edgbaston on Thursday, hoping to lift the home side after two thumping defeats.

The 33-year-old all-rounder, who missed the first two Tests because of a fractured cheekbone, has been asked to produce the magic touch which has confounded the Australians on numerous occasions over the past decade.

Opener Chris Broad, three times a century contributor in England's Ashes victory in Australia two seasons ago, has been dropped from the squad announced today, along with Yorkshire fast bowler Paul Jarvis.

But Allan Lamb, a century-maker in the first Test, returns to the side after sitting out the second match because of a finger injury.

Botham clinched his recall after 22 months away from Test cricket, with six for 99 in 28.3 consecutive overs in front of England manager Micki Stewart at Northampton yesterday.

That performance — his best in championship cricket for eight years — not only proved Botham's fitness but revealed a more familiar and incisive edge to his bowling.

Botham, who played in the three one-day internationals before his injury, has happy memories of combat against Australia at Birmingham. In 1981, he produced an amazing spell of five for one in 28 balls to bring England back from the dead and win the match.

Four years later at Edgbaston, he became the highest England wicket-taker against Australia. Of his 373 Test victims, 145 have been claimed in Ashes series.

Kim Barnett, who probably safeguarded his selection with 118 against Somerset yesterday, may well take Broad's place, opening alongside Graham Gooch. Broad scored a disappointing 37, seven, 18 and 20 in his four innings against the Australians.

But Ted Dexter, chairman of the England selectors told reporters only two would play out of the batting trio of Barnett, former captain Mike Gatting and Robin Smith. Smith injured a hamstring during a fine 96 at the Lord's Test last week but should be fit for Thursday.

Squad: David Gower (captain), Graham Gooch, Kim Barnett, Allan Lamb, Robin Smith, Mike Gatting, Ian Botham, Jack Russell, John Emburey, Neil Foster, Angus Fraser, Graham Dilley.

Botham restricts Northants

LONDON, July 2, (Reuters): Ian Botham staked a strong claim for a return to England's Test cricket 'team' yesterday with his best bowling figures for two years and a comprehensive victory in a duel with his main rival for the all-rounder's place in the squad.

In an unbroken spell of 28.5 overs, Botham took six for 99 as Northamptonshire were dismissed for 256 and then Worcester lost only one wicket in scoring 131 on the first day of their three-day county championship match.

But what may have given Botham most satisfaction was his dismissal of Northamptonshire's David Capel, rival contender for a place in the England team.

Ruled out of the first two Tests with a fractured cheekbone, botham reserved his most venomous bowling for Capel. The Northants batsman edged the first ball just short of slip, was beaten badly by the next two deliveries and then sliced a catch off the fourth to Graeme Hick at



Ian Botham

slip.

Botham also took the wicket of Allan Lamb but not before the England batsman had struck him for four, six and four in quick succession.

When Botham finally trapped him for 55, made from 50 balls, Lamb had shown he had recovered from the finger injury which kept him out of the Second Test.

Championship leaders Essex were shot out for 185 after being sent in by Sussex at Horsham with acting captain Colin Wells taking four for 38 as Australia's Tony Dodemaide four for 58.

Sussex got off to a bad start in reply when Neil Foster had Neil Leatham caught by Graham Gooch at first slip with only four on the board and then David Smith was forced to retire after being hit on the hand.

By the close they were struggling at 93 for four with Foster and Derek Pringle taking two wickets apiece.

Derbyshire captain Kim Barnett, whose Test place is in doubt, picked the ideal moment to score his first century of the season as his team reached 329 for two on an easy-paced Derby pitch against Somerset.

Barnett scored 118 and put on 179 for the first wicket with Peter Bowler, who made 54.

John Morris and Rajeshwar Sharma then kept the runs flowing and by the close Morris was unbeaten on 93 and Sharma 42.

Smith stuns Lewis, Bile ends Cram's reign

OSLO, July 2, (UPI): Calvin Smith upset Carl Lewis over 100 metres yesterday and four African runners highlighted the Bislett Games, which featured eight season best performances.

Smith spoiled Lewis' 28th birthday by beating the two-time Olympic champion in 10.05 seconds. Bislett stadium, one of the fastest tracks in the world, failed to produce its 49th world record, but it was the site of some exciting competition yesterday.

Season-best performances were turned in by Said Aouita of Morocco in the 3,000 metres; Somalia's Abdi Bile in the featured Dream Mile; Yobes Ondieki of Kenya over 5,000 metres and his steeplechasing countryman Julius Kariuki; American Johnny Gray in the 800; Norwegian Ingrid Kristiansen in the women's 10,000 metres; Soviet pole vaulter Rodion Gataullin; and East German shot putter Ulf Timmermann.

Lewis, normally an explosive finisher, couldn't make up for his slow start and Smith handed him his first defeat since the 1987 world championships. Lewis finished second to Ben Johnson in the Olympics last year, but Johnson was disqualified because of a positive drug test.

"I wish I had reacted faster in the start but it was just one of those days," Lewis said. "It is the beginning of the season and my main focus on this trip to Europe is the long jump event in Stockholm (on Monday)."

Smith, the two-time world champion at 200 metres and the 1988 Olympic silver medalist in the 100, said: "I had a good start and that is the key for me to do a good race."

He criticized the media's massive attention on Lewis, saying: "They don't pay enough attention to the others, including me who deserve a better treatment."

In the Dream Mile, Bile avenged last year's loss to Britain's Steve Cram with a seasonal best of 3 minutes 49.90 seconds, 3.58 seconds outside Cram's world mark set here in 1985.

Cram held world-record pace until the bell rang when he faded to fourth. Bile charged through the last bend to leave Kenya's Wilfred Kirochi in second, .59 seconds behind. Cram had been the king of the Dream Mile until this race.

"I tried to respond on the last lap but it is still too early in the season for me," Cram said adding, "I have no excuses."

Aouita, holder of world records in four middle distances, sped away from the pack at the 2,000-metre mark, but failed to take another world record despite a strong burst on the last two laps. His 7:34.79 was 2.70 seconds outside Kenyan Henry Rono's world mark set here 11 years ago.

Aouita said he came here to run the Dream Mile, but eventually agreed to run the 3,000 instead.

"Somebody in the mile race didn't like to run against me," said Aouita, but denied he thought it was Cram who stopped his participation.

"Somebody is trying to create a problem between me and Cram, he is my best friend. I respect him as a good runner and I have nothing against him."

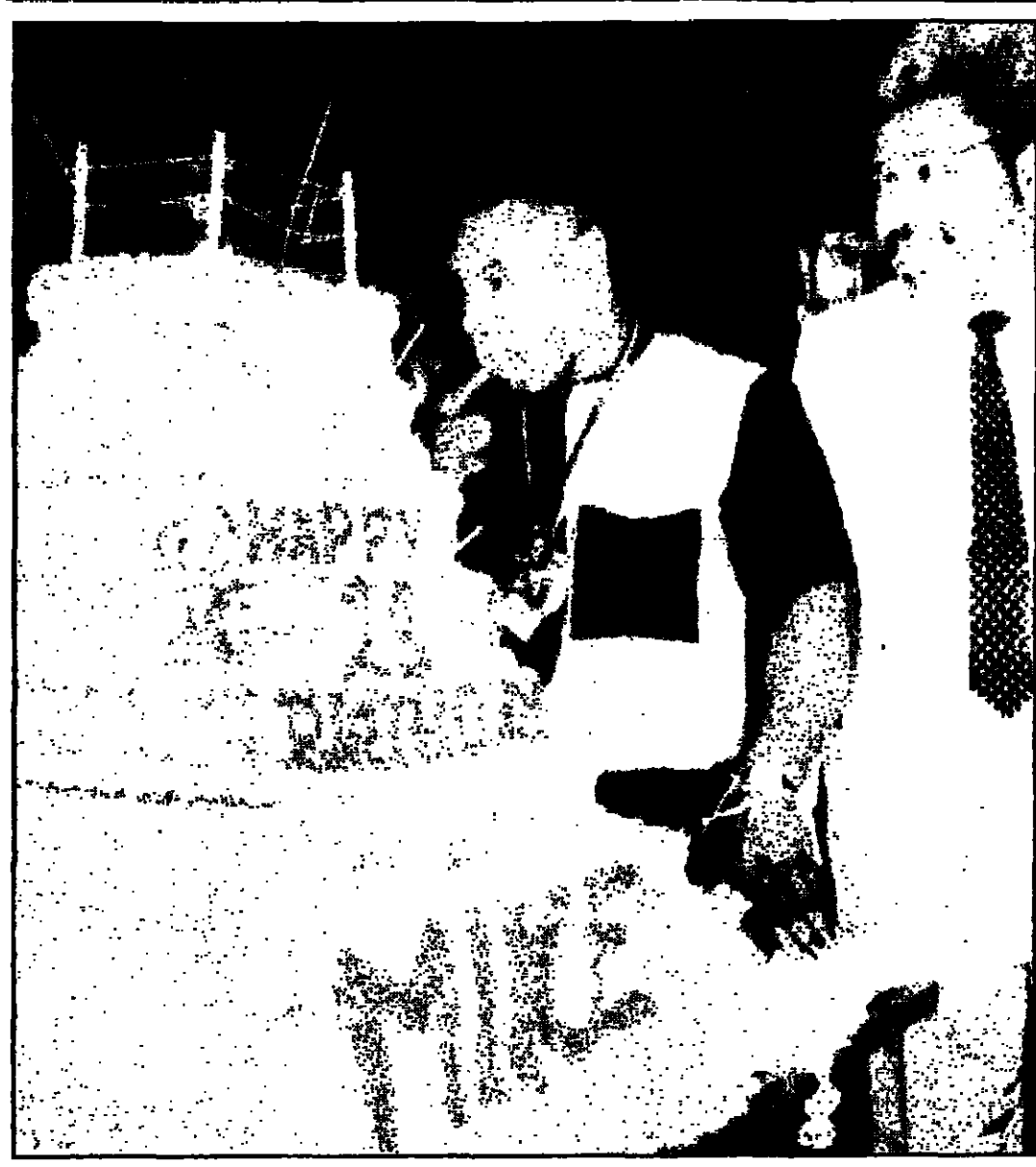
Ondieki had the crowd of 24,000 gasping with a bold challenge on the 5,000 metre record. He ran most of the race



Aouita (158) in action during the 3,000 metres. (Reuters wirephoto)

alone and was on record pace until the final two laps. He finished in 13:04.24, 5.87 seconds outside Aouita's world mark.

Olympic champion Kariuki sped away from the opponents with two laps left but also faded



Happy birthday Tyson

World heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson samples the icing on his birthday cake, on Friday, at the International Exposition Centre in Cleveland, Ohio, the United States. Tyson celebrated his 23rd birthday with a party hosted by boxing promoter Don King (right). (Reuters wirephoto)

US outclass Soviet Union for USA Cup

INGLEWOOD, California, July 2, (AP): The United States swept the Soviet Union 15-9, 15-9, 15-5 last night to win the championship volleyball match of the USA Cup.

Brazil beat South Korea 15-9, 13-15, 15-6, 15-12 to claim third place.

It was the sixth straight year the United States has won the tournament, the last four of which have been against the Soviets.

The competition was the last for Karch Kiraly and Steve Timmons, who guided the US team from obscurity to gold medals in consecutive Olympics. Both are retiring to pursue other interests, including professional beach volleyball. Timmons was named USA Cup Most Valuable Player for the third time.

The Americans had little trouble pulling away from the Soviets. With the United States leading 12-9 in the second game, Timmons served three straight points, including two aces, to give the USA a two-game lead.

The United States took a 6-5 lead in the third game, then ran off nine straight points to win the title.

Bob Cvrtlik had 16 kills, followed by Timmons with 13, Troy Tanner 12 and Kiraly 11.

Andrei Kunznetsov led the Soviets with 12 kills.

Brazil beat Venezuela in S. American soccer

SALVADOR, Brazil, July 2, (Reuters): Brazil beat Venezuela 3-1 (2-0) in the South American Soccer Championship yesterday, but not before fans jeered and threw water at coach Sebastiao Lazaroni.

Lazaroni felt the full brunt of the anger from many of the 35,000 fans in this northeastern city as he walked to the bench. They whistled, jeered and threw plastic cups full of water or juice at him for dropping local star Charles from his 20-man squad for the qualifying round of the 27th Copa America.

Some fans burned a Brazilian flag in front of him as he walked to the bench at the 80,000-capacity Fonte Nova stadium.

The scenes were reminders of similar incidents 30 years ago when former coach Vicente Feola dropped brilliant winger Garrincha for a friendly against England at Rio de Janeiro's Maracana stadium.

Lazaroni's side, also looking to overcome a disappointing European tour on which they lost three matches and drew one, managed to quiet the fans by taking a lead in the second minute against the weak Venezuelans through Flamengo star Bebeto.

Vasco da Gama's Geovani made the halftime score in the Group One match 2-0 by converting a penalty in the 36th minute after Venezuelan goalkeeper Cesar Baena tripped Bebeto.

Alejo Madrid striker Baltazar, a late choice after Napoli's Careca dropped out of the squad through injury, added a third goal in the 56th minute and Brazil could have had more goals as they dominated the match.

In the 62nd minute, midfielder Carlos Maldonado scored the first ever Venezuelan goal against Brazil in a dozen games.

A South American Football Confederation ruling says coaches can add two more players to their squads if they reach the four-team final round in Rio de Janeiro from July 12-16.

Earlier, Paraguay thrashed Peru 5-2 in the opening game of the tournament on the same uneven and damp pitch that was only just readied in time.

"It's not an excuse, but the pitch was very heavy and in Peru it hasn't rained for 100 years," said Peru's coach Pepe, a former winger with Santos in Pele's heyday.

The skilled but lightweight Peruvians started well, pinning Paraguay in their own half with accurate passing, and took the lead through Jorge Hiran after 29 minutes.

But the stronger Paraguayans stormed back on the uneven field of the Fonte Nova stadium, only just made ready in time for the start of Group One play in this northeastern city.

GOLF

McCumber and Mize share lead

OAK BROOK, Ill., July 2, (Reuters): Larry Mize shot a five-under-par 67 and gained a share of the third-round lead with fellow-American Mark McCumber in the \$1 million Western Open golf tournament yesterday.

While Mize had a superb round it was a gutsy performance by the stocky McCumber who nearly had to withdraw after nine holes because of severe back pains that was the story of the day.

McCumber had his back "frozen" with a special spray after the ninth hole and every hole thereafter, enabling McCumber to finish the round with a one-under-par 71.

Mize, a former winner of the Masters tournament, and McCumber, a former winner of this event and the players championship, had totals of 10-under-par 206.

American Paul Azinger suffered bogeys in each of the final two holes to drop from 11-under-par to nine-under and was tied with compatriot Peter Jacobsen at 207. Mark Wiebe was alone at 208 and Tommy Armour III, both of the United States, was at 209.

Mike Hulbert and Curt Byrum of the United States were tied at 210. Greg Norman bogeyed two of the last three holes and was at 211 with 10 other players.

"I started the day wondering if I would be able to play today," McCumber said. "Starting at the third hole, I began to hit the ball left and I never hit the ball left. I just couldn't complete the swing."

Mize had a round of five birdies and no bogeys. "I played really well," he said. "I'm happy with this round and hope I can continue tomorrow."

The winner will receive \$180,000.

Green moves ahead after three rounds

MONTREAL, July 2, (Reuters): Tammie Green fired a two-under-par 70 to jump into a three-stroke lead after three rounds of the \$600,000 Montreal Classic golf tournament yesterday.

Green, the 1986 LPGA Rookie of the Year, leads compatriot Americans Betsy King, Jane Geddes, Hollis Stacy and Penny Hammel who are at six under par.

King, who began her round one stroke ahead of Green, had a 74 yesterday and first over-par round in three weeks.

"I just did not play well today," said King. "I did not hit it close to the pin."

King bogeyed two holes on her front side to fall back to six-under, three strokes behind Green. Green, who began the day at seven under par, had two birdies on holes six and nine to take the lead away from the faltering King. At that point Green was enjoying a two-stroke lead over American Nancy Lopez.

to miss the tour due to injury.

O'Reilly stressed that Lofreda had not been cushioned.

The frequent penalties dashed chances of a following game. But the Pumas showed the strength of their scrummaging which provided the basis for both their tries.

Outstanding number eight Gustavo Milano scored the first after only 18 minutes while fiery flanker Pablo di Nisio scored from another attacking scrum late in the game.

Milano was also prominent in the lineouts and countered North Auckland's main player here, All Black trialist Ian Jones.

Another major Puma weapon was the kicking of scrumhalf Daniel Basti who scored off five of his six attempts at goal.

North Auckland were not so well served by their big fullback Warren Johnston. Normally a powerful kicker, he succeeded with only four of his 10 attempts.

Pumas win tour opener

WHANGAREI, New Zealand, July 2, (Reuters): The Argentine Pumas kicked off a nine-match rugby union tour of New Zealand with a 22-16 win over North Auckland today.

The win was marred by a high penalty count against the tourists and an injury to captain Marcelo Loffreda.

The referee's penalty-free kick count went 23-9 against the tourists. Most of the infringements were for offside.

Puma coach Rodolfo O'Reilly admitted the penalty count had been worrying but he believed referee Geoff Smith of Hawkes Bay had only refereed one side.

"North Auckland were offside as frequently as we were and were not penalised," he said.

Argentina suffered another blow when Loffreda had to be helped off in the second half. Loffreda had himself replaced Jorge Allen, who was originally down to captain the side but had

New Zealand sail into final

NEW YORK, July 2, (Reuters): New Zealand and France finished three days of sailing yesterday with the best records in the 1989 Liberty Cup round-robin competition and were to meet in a best-two-of-three series for the championship today.

New Zealand finished the two rounds in first place with a 10-2 record and France was second at 9-3.

It will be the first time in the six-year history of the Cup that neither the United States nor Australia have won.

France, guided by Bertrand Pace, began the day by snapping New Zealand's six-race winning streak. But New Zealand recovered to win four of its remaining five races of the day.

"Our crew started poorly all day," said New Zealand's skipper, Russell Coutts. "Although we won the start in our race against France, a piece of cardboard stuck to our keel may have been a factor in our loss. To defeat France tomorrow we will have to lift our efforts at the start."

France earned a berth in the finals despite losing its last two matches of the day to Sweden and the United States.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Irish Derby

DUBLIN, July 2, (Reuters): Result of the Irish Derby horse racing classic, a Group One race for three-year-olds, run over 1-1/2 miles (2.4 km) at the Curragh today: 1. Old Vic 11-4 on favourite (ridden by Steve Cauthen) 2. Observation Post 12-1 (Willie Carson) 3. Ile de Nisky 5-1 (Pat Eddery).

Nascar race

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, July 2, (UPI): Ford driver Davey Allison moved past a slowing Mark Martin with six laps remaining and went on to win the sixth race of his career yesterday in the Pepsi 400 Nascar Race at Daytona International Speedway.

Track record

CLEVELAND, July 2, (UPI): Michael Andretti set a track record yesterday in seizing the pole position for today's eighth running of the Budweiser-Cleveland Grand Prix.

Senegal win

DAKAR, July 2, (Reuters): Senegal beat Tunisia 3-0 (half-time 0-0) in their first leg, first round African Nations Cup qualifying match yesterday. Scorers - Jules Francois Bocande (48th and 76th mins), Lamine N'Diaye (54th).

Title fight

CROTONE, Italy, July 2, (AP): WBA junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell faces tough American challenger Jackie Beards in the eighth defence of his title in this southern Italian city.

Half-marathon

SAPPORO, Japan, July 2, (AP): Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania won the men's race in meet record time while Australian Lisa Martin edged Japan's Chieko Matsukawa for the women's title in the Times Sapporo half-marathon today.

Senior Open

LIGONIER, Pennsylvania, July 2, (UPI): Orville Moody shot a tournament-record 64 yesterday, jumping from 1-over-par to 7-under in tying Frank Beard for the third-round lead at the US Senior Open.

N. Korea win

TOKYO, July 2, (AP): North Korea beat Hong Kong 4-1 today in an East Asia Group 6 World Cup soccer qualifying match in Pyongyang, Kyodo news service reported. No other World Cup qualifying matches were scheduled today.

Asian wrestling

OHARAI, Japan, July 2, (AP): Iran and South Korea dominated the 6th Asian Amateur Wrestling Championships, winning six titles each in bouts that ended today. South Korean wrestlers also captured five silver and four bronze medals and won the Greco-Roman style team title in the three-day championships at Oharai Undokoen Gym, northeast of Tokyo.

Belgian GP

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, July 2, (AP): Dutchman Hans Spaan won his second 125cc Grand Prix race in a row to take a share of the lead in the world championship standings, while Swiss veteran Jacques Cornu won the Belgian Grand Prix in the 250cc class today.

Drug allegations

OSLO, July 2, (Reuters): East Germany's Olympic women's javelin champion Petra Felke yesterday denied allegations that she had taken performance-enhancing drugs. Felke was one of several East German athletes named by East German doctor and former Olympic ski jumping champion Hans-Georg Aschenbach, who defected to West Germany.

Diego Maradona

GOIANIA, Brazil, July 2, (Reuters): Diego Maradona insists a recent bout of tendinitis in his right leg will not prevent him from captaining Argentina in their opening match in the South American soccer championship against Chile this evening.

TV rights

LIMASSOL, Cyprus, July 2, (AP): The European Broadcasting Union has secured the television rights to the next Olympic Games and other major sporting events after losing rights to the Wimbledon Tennis Championship to a competitor, president Albert Scharff said today.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubera Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

1. Mrs B. Moosel & Tawil Ahmed
2. M. Mercher & C. Cullen
3. Nabil Akel & Chaudhry

E/W

1. Mrs Pereira & Mr D'Souza
2. J.J. Nagarath & K. Javahire
3. Aurora & Gajjar

Chang and Sanchez thrill fans

French Open champions surprise themselves

LONDON, July 2, (Reuters): While teen-aged French Open champions Michael Chang and Arantxa Sanchez have been thrilling the Wimbledon crowd with their do-or-die tactics, Boris Becker and Steffi Graf have coolly navigated the first week of the championships without dropping a set.

Chang and Sanchez, both 17 and both dogged fighters, may have provided more entertainment but even they admit to surprise at finding themselves still in the running as the tournament goes into its second week.

Neither is a serve and volley player, relying instead on determination and an ability to chase every shot across the grass.

"I think it would be a surprise for everybody, including myself if I won," said Chang, who came back from 5-1 down in the third set to beat Dutchman Michiel Schapers and reach the last 16 here for the first time.

Sanchez saved two match points to get past Italian Raf. Faella Reggi and into the fourth round. But, assuming she beats American 15th seed Lori McNeil after today's rest day, she should find a comfortable opponent in the quarter-finals — defending champion Graf.

An off-form Graf on the Paris clay was one thing. But at Wimbledon, the most prestigious tournament in the eyes of most players, she is another matter. Graf has put her French Open defeat by Sanchez out of her mind. Relaxed and smiling in London she has dropped no more than four games in any match and her only moment of anxiety had nothing to do with tennis.

Her father Peter, who taught her to play tennis when she was a toddler and is her constant companion, had to fly home to see a specialist for a stomach complaint.



McEnroe (2nd left) with the extra securitymen assigned to him after the death threat. (Reuters wirephoto)

But he was pronounced fit enough to come straight back to London and will be spurring on his daughter today when she plays Monica Seles — the Yugoslav teenager who took her to three sets in the French Open semifinals.

Becker too has had more problems off court than on, having to call a press conference to deny derogatory remarks about the All England Tennis Club which were attributed to him by British newspapers.

On court the Becker serve has looked in good shape as the 21-year-old West German tries to recapture the title he took in 1985 and 1986.

His passage towards next Sunday's final has been helped by the removal of two seeds — Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland and American Kevin Curren — from his quarter of the draw although he could face world number one Ivan Lendl in the semifinals.

One surprise second-round exit from Lendl's section of the draw was Jimmy Connors, twice champion, four times finalist

and, at 36, still a favourite with the fans here.

His conqueror, American former college champion, Dan Goldie, has survived to reach the last 16 but now faces big-hitting Yugoslav Slobodan Zivonjovic, the man who knocked out Olympic champion and seventh seed Miloslav Mecir.

John McEnroe, now 30 and still as famous for his temper as for his three Wimbledon titles, has said he will drop his shorts on centre court if Chang wins the championship. But yesterday he said he was not yet worried about dropping his pants yet.

McEnroe, the oldest player left in the draw, may have the chance in the semifinals to defeat his fellow-American and prevent both things happening — if neither Tim Mayotte nor defending champion Stefan Edberg takes care of Chang first.

McEnroe's progress has looked easier with each round as he has ironed out problems with his serve but he would do well to beware of Sweden's Mats Wilander, his possible quarterfinal



Evert leaps to return a backhand volley. (Reuters wirephoto)

opponent.

Wilander, who won every Grand Slam title except Wimbledon last year, has calmly motored through the first three rounds without dropping more than three games in any set.

But the Swede, who has had a poor year, is not over-confident. For the last two years he has progressed to the final 16 without dropping a set and then failed to get past the quarterfinals.

Former champions Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert both advanced yesterday to the fourth round of the women's event in convincing fashion.

Second-seeded Navratilova outplayed Australian Nicole Provis 6-0, 6-3 to stay on course for her record ninth Wimbledon

singles title. Fourth-seeded Evert, bidding to win the crown for the fourth time, dismissed Britain's Anne Hobbs 6-4, 6-1.

But another seeded American, No 8 Pam Shriver, bowed out 2-6, 6-2, 12-10 against compatriot Gretchen Magers.

Navratilova, beaten in last year's final by West German Steffi Graf after six successive Wimbledon triumphs, was pleased to be back on centre court.

"It was thrill because I hadn't been there yet," said Navratilova, who played on outside courts in the two earlier rounds.

"I felt that I wasn't really in the tournament until I got on the centre court. I've been defending champion every year, so I've been playing the opening match (on centre court) always."

"It would have been strange being out of the tournament without ever being on centre court. That hasn't happened since '74. It would have been a really new experience. One that I did not look forward to. Now I can play."

Yesterday McEnroe was given extra protection at the Wimbledon championships after a man threatened to kill him while he was playing.

A police spokesman said the man made the threat in two calls to the All England Club, which organises the championships, and in another to a national newspaper.

He said the man warned: "Don't let John McEnroe go on court today or he will be assassinated."

The security firm employed by Wimbledon said it had given McEnroe extra protection for his two matches yesterday, a singles on centre court and a doubles on an outside court.

"We have certainly been more aware of where he is," a spokesman for the firm said.

Da Silva wins first stage for Tour lead

LUXEMBOURG, July 2, (Reuters): Acacio da Silva of Portugal won the first stage of the Tour de France cycle race today to take the race leader's yellow jersey after a breakaway by three riders.

Da Silva, a Luxembourg resident, won the 135.5-km stage, which started and finished in the capital, in a time of three hours 21 minutes 36 seconds.

The Portuguese broke free alongside Soren Lilholt of Denmark and Roland le Clerc of France, building a lead over the pack of 11 minutes 25 seconds at one point.

Da Silva dropped first Le Clerc and then Lilholt on the steep climb into the city just before the finish, to race home on his own.

Lilholt was second, seven seconds behind in unofficial timings, and Le Clerc third, a provisional one minute 40 seconds down. The pack reduced the arrears to four minutes 39 seconds by the end.

Da Silva, who won a stage in



Da Silva after winning the first stage (Reuters wirephoto)

each of the last two Tours de France, took over the race lead from prologue winner Eric Breukink of the Netherlands.

He did the same thing to Breukink earlier this year in the Tour of Italy, where he wore the leader's pink jersey for two days.

Sarron escapes injury

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, July 2, (Reuters): The Belgian 500cc Motorcycling Grand Prix today was halted after race leader Christian Sarron of France crashed on the sixth lap.

Rainey on a Yamaha led an American sweep of the top three places. Lawson on a Honda finished second ahead of Yamaha rider John Kocinski.

Four riders — Sarron and Americans Eddie Lawson, Kevin Schwantz and Wayne Rainey — were locked in a fierce battle for the lead when a light drizzle made the Francorchamps track slippery.

Schwantz, fastest in practice, waved his left arm at the end of the fifth lap to signal that it had started raining then slowed down.

Organisers announced that the 500cc event, originally to have been run over 18 laps, would be restarted after 30 minutes and be raced over 13 laps.

Rain lashed the track during the fourth lap of the re-started 13-lap race just as Lawson, Schwantz and Rainey were involved in a hair-raising battle for the lead.

Faldo takes French Open title

CHANTILLY, France, July 2, (Reuters): Nick Faldo birdied the last to retain his French Open golf title today and score his fourth triumph in as many appearances in Europe.

In-form Faldo swept to the top of Europe's money list after a final round 69 secured him a one-shot victory over South African Hugh Baiocchi, Bernhard Langer of West Germany and fellow Briton Mark Roe.

The US Masters champion has played only three times in

Europe this year and won each time. He has earned more than £160,000 (\$248,000) in the process — around £200 (\$310) for each competitive swing of the club.

He added wryly: "I think the guys might buy me a fishing rod and send me off."

Faldo, who won the PGA championship and British Masters in successive weeks, splashed out from under the lip of a bunker to three feet for his birdie four at the 18th to finish on a seven-

under-par 273 total.

The 31-year-old former British Open champion cashed in when overnight leader Roman Rafferty, two ahead with nine to play, ran up double-bogey sixes at the 10th and 11th after wayward drives. He eventually finished with a 74 for 276 and joint ninth spot.

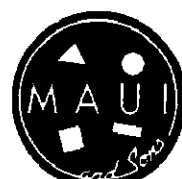
Langer, with six threes in a row from the second, looked to have solved his putting problems and birdied the last for a 66 to set the six-under target.

Classic Quartz

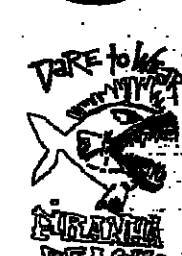
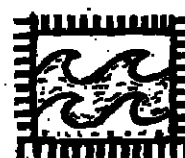
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